DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

2027 – 2029 Operating Budget

Washington State Department of Ecology
Olympia, Washington

September 2026

ADA Accessibility



The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to our information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of state and federal laws.

To request an ADA accommodation, email chrystal.witham@ecy.wa.gov, call 360.407.6985 or dial 711 to call us through the Washington Telecommunications Relay for services, including text telephone (TTY). Visit ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more information.

Department of Ecology's Region Offices

Map of Counties Served



Southwest Region Office

Phone: 360-407-6300
Counties: Clallam, Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Jefferson, Mason, Lewis, Pacific, Pierce, Skamania, Thurston, Wahkiakum

Northwest Region Office

Phone: 206-594-0000
Counties: Island, King, Kitsap, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, Whatcom

Central Region Office

Phone: 509-575-2490
Counties: Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Kittitas, Klickitat, Okanogan, Yakima

Eastern Region Office

Phone: 509-329-3400
Counties: Adams, Asotin, Columbia, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Lincoln, Pend Oreille, Spokane, Stevens, Walla Walla, Whitman

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
PO Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 • 360-407-6000

September 14, 2026

TO: K.D. Chapman-See, Director
Office of Financial Management (OFM)

FROM: Casey D. Sixkiller, Director

SUBJECT: Ecology's 2027-29 Biennial Operating and Transportation Budget Requests

As the state's lead environmental agency, Ecology's mission is to protect and preserve the environment for current and future generations. Our vision is for our partnerships to protect and sustain healthy land, air, water, and climate in harmony with a strong economy. We are tackling challenges that are unique to our times and require us to take a broad and holistic approach to our work that focuses on not only *what* we do, but also *how* we do it.

Ecology's strategic goals are to:

1. Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees.
2. Reduce and prepare for climate change impacts.
3. Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.
4. Protect and manage our state's waters.

Our agency's deep commitment to environmental justice is tied to each of our strategic goals and guides the way we work to accomplish those goals.

Attached is Ecology's $629,000 2027-29 biennial operating budget request. This submittal acknowledges the significant financial challenges facing the state and includes several cost-saving options to help address them. Our request is limited to a focused set of decision packages needed to:

- Maintain effective implementation of enacted climate policies that reduce carbon pollution and support achievement of the state's greenhouse gas emission limits.
- Fulfill our obligations for the cleanup of Hanford and accelerate the cleanup of other contaminated sites in communities across Washington.
- Reduce Ecology's reliance on the state general fund.
- Support request legislation proposed for the 2027 legislative session.
- Continue providing grants to communities across the state to increase public understanding and involvement in contaminated site cleanup and waste-management practices.

- Align compensation for Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) members with the state minimum wage.

This request is supported primarily by dedicated environmental funds and direct charges to customers for services provided.

Assisting with the State's Projected Budget Shortfall

On June 5, 2026, OFM released its operating, transportation, and capital budget instructions for the upcoming 2027-29 biennium. As part of those instructions, and in response to significant budget shortfalls anticipated next biennium in both the state's operating and transportation budgets, OFM directed cabinet agencies to provide reduction options—particularly for General Fund-State (GF-S), through efficiencies, program reforms, and other savings in non-essential services and programs.

In response to OFM's direction, Ecology identified several options that would generate ongoing cost savings and additional revenue for GF-S, along with several dedicated accounts, beginning July 1, 2027. Combined, these options would result in an ongoing 8.9% reduction to Ecology's GF-S funding level for 2027-29 and generate an estimated $560,000 in additional revenue for GF-S each biennium.

Transportation Budget Reappropriation

Our submittal also includes a transportation budget request to reappropriate the remaining funds for the Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program, so school bus owners who have received grant awards have enough time to receive their buses, complete testing, and place them into service in the 2027-29 biennium.

One Washington Project

While not included in this submittal, please note that per the OFM Budget Instructions, Ecology did submit required information to One Washington in August 2026. This information outlined our resource needs for the 2027-20 biennial operating budgets so they could be integrated into a single, consolidated, enterprise-wide decision package.

Thank you for considering Ecology's 2027-29 biennial operating budget request. We will work with our assigned OFM operating budget advisors as they review this request in detail. Please let us know if you have any questions.

Attachment

Distribution to:
Lisa Borkowski, Budget Advisor to the Governor, Natural Resources, OFM
Kate Brouns, Senior Policy Advisor, Climate/Energy, Office of the Governor

Wendy Brown, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Debbie Driver, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
Dawn Eychaner, Senior Fiscal Analyst, House Capital Budget Committee
Erik Hansen, Senior Transportation Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Jennifer Harris, Senior Counsel, House Transportation Committee
Jed Herman, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Senate Ways & Means Committee
Matthew Hunter, Senior Budget Advisor to the Governor, Natural Resources, OFM
Dan Jones, Fiscal Analyst, House Appropriations/Natural Resources Committee
Kenneth Martin, Deputy Policy Director, Environment, Transportation & Infrastructure, Office of the Governor
Jennifer Masterson, Senior Capital Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Brandon Popovac, Senior Fiscal Counsel, Senate Transportation Committee
Owen Rowe, Senior Policy Advisor, Natural Resources, Office of the Governor
Sheri Sawyer, Legislative Affairs Director, OFM
Carrie Sessions, Governmental Affairs Director, Department of Ecology
Garret Ward, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Ecology
Shelly Willhoite, Capital Budget Advisor to the Governor, OFM
Robyn Williams, Budget Director, OFM

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab A Agency Overview 11

1. Executive Management Organization Chart 13
2. 2025-2030 Ecology Strategic Plan 15
3. Agency Activity Inventory Report 41
4. Performance Measure Incremental Estimates Report 53
5. Activity Inventory - Indirect Cost Allocation 2027-29 63

Tab B Recommendation Summary 65

1. Recommendation Summary 2027-29 Operating Budget 67

Tab C Decision Packages 69

1. Operating Budget Request Summary (Spreadsheet) 71
2. OFM Decision Package Summary Report 73
3. Decision Package Prioritization 75

Tab C-1 Maintenance Level 77

1. ML FC Hanford Site Technical Correction 79
2. ML FE WCC Member Wages & Benefits 93
3. ML FA Public Participation Grants 115
4. ML FF 2027-29 Cost Savings Options 129
5. ML FB Zero Emissions School Bus Program 143
6. Other Planned OFM ML Adjustments 157

Tab C-2 Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts 161

1. PL DE Achieving Statutory Decarbonization 163
2. PL DA Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority 183

Tab C-3 Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution 195

1. PL DC Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees 197

2. PL DB Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program 233

Tab C-4 Protect and Manage our State's Waters 245

1. PL DD Well Construction and Licensing 247

Tab C-5 Other 277

1. PL RA New or Increased Fee Requests 279

Tab D Other Reports 289

1. 2027-29 Summarized Revenues by Account and Source 291
2. 2027-29 Revenue Descriptions 305
3. 2027-29 Proposed Fee Changes 317
4. 2027-29 Working Capital Reserve 321
5. 2027-29 Fund Transfers List 323
6. 2027-29 Puget Sound Action Agenda List Operating 327
7. 2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates 329
8. 2027-29 Federal Funding Reduction Summary 341

Tab E Specified Documents 347

1. Central Services Agency Fund Splits 349
2. State Fee Inventory 351
3. Enterprise Risk Management Update 361

*** END OF TABLE OF CONTENTS ***

Tab A Agency Overview 11

1. Executive Management Organization Chart 13
2. 2025-2030 Ecology Strategic Plan 15
3. Agency Activity Inventory Report 41
4. Performance Measure Incremental Estimates Report 53
5. Activity Inventory - Indirect Cost Allocation 2027-29 63

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Department of Ecology: Executive Leadership



Casey D. Sixkiller
Director



Jon Monger
Deputy Director –
Policy & Operations



Rachel Niemeyer
Executive Assistant



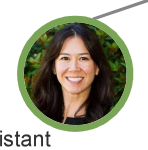
Teri North
Executive Assistant



Andy Fitz
Office of Attorney General



Heather Bartlett
Deputy Director –
Environmental Programs



Judy Decker
Executive Assistant



Millie Piazza
Office of Equity & Environmental Justice

Policy & Operations



John Shields
Administrative Services



Garret Ward
Financial Services



Sandi Stewart
Human Resources



Kristy Schreiner
Information Tech. Services



Dustin Terpening
Communications



Carrie Sessions
Governmental Relations



Bobbak Talebi
Southwest Region



Brook Beeler
Eastern Region



David Bowen
Central Region



Tom Buroker
Northwest Region

Advisors



Jennifer Hennessey
Special Asst. to the Director



Sharlett Mena
Special Asst. to the Director



Marissa Smith
Special Asst. to the Director



Tyson Oreiro
Executive Advisor for Tribal Affairs

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Environment



Kathy Taylor
Air Quality



Joel Creswell
Climate Pollution Reduction



Stacy Polkowske
Environmental Assessment



Katrina Lassiter
Hazardous Waste & Toxics Reduction



Stephanie Schleif
Nuclear Waste



Joenne McGerr
Shorelands & Environmental Assistance



Peter Lyon
Solid Waste Management



Carlos Clements
Spill Prevention, Preparedness & Response



Nhi Irwin
Toxics Cleanup



Jon Kenning
Water Quality



Ria Berns
Water Resources



Larry Mattson
Office of Columbia River



Nat Kale
Office of Chehalis Basin *(acting)*

July 2026

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

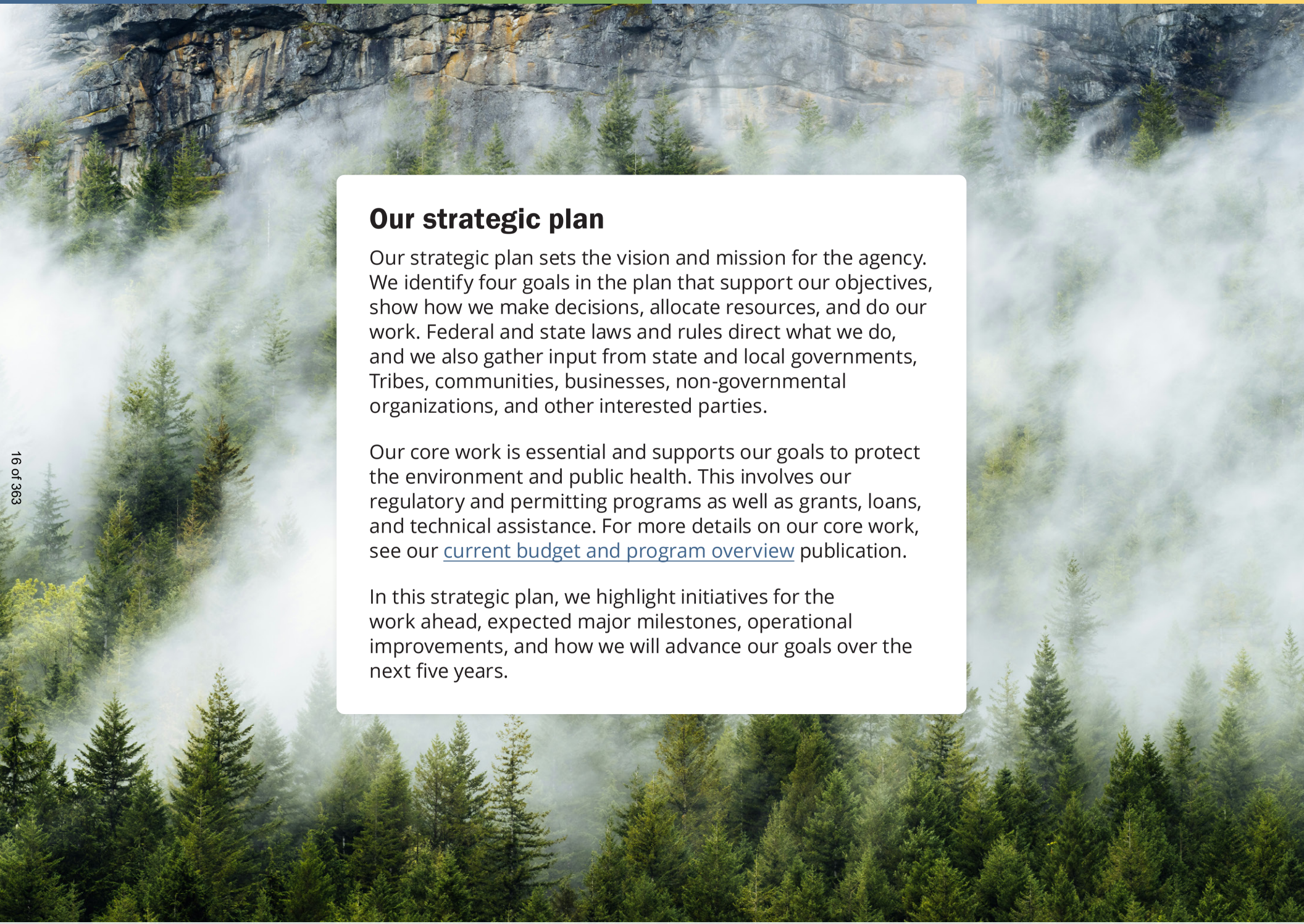
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

2025–2030 Strategic Plan



15 of 363

PUBLICATION 24-01-004 SEPTEMBER 2024



Our strategic plan

Our strategic plan sets the vision and mission for the agency. We identify four goals in the plan that support our objectives, show how we make decisions, allocate resources, and do our work. Federal and state laws and rules direct what we do, and we also gather input from state and local governments, Tribes, communities, businesses, non-governmental organizations, and other interested parties.

Our core work is essential and supports our goals to protect the environment and public health. This involves our regulatory and permitting programs as well as grants, loans, and technical assistance. For more details on our core work, see our current budget and program overview publication.

In this strategic plan, we highlight initiatives for the work ahead, expected major milestones, operational improvements, and how we will advance our goals over the next five years.

Vision

Our partnerships protect and sustain healthy land, air, water, and climate in harmony with a strong economy.

Mission

To protect, preserve, and enhance Washington's environment for current and future generations.

Goals

Goal 1

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

Goal 2

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

Goal 3

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

Goal 4

Protect and manage our state's waters

Values

These are the values we bring to accomplish our vision and mission:

- Adaptability and flexibility
- Clear communication and plain language
- Defensible and transparent decision-making
- Diversity, belonging, and inclusion
- Kindness and respect
- Knowledge, creativity, strategic thinking
- Performance and accountability
- Public service focus
- Support for employee health and well-being
- Teamwork
- Trust and integrity
- Working safely

Goal 1

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

Goal 1 guides our policies, programs, workplace, relationships, and interactions to implement our vision and mission. Our leadership commits to creating a culture where we respect and include our workforce and those affected by our work. At Ecology, we:

- Infuse equity in our policies, initiatives, processes, and activities to address environmental and health disparities and create a healthy environment for all.
- Strive to provide equitable access to all who use our services, which includes providing pathways for those with limited English proficiency or disabilities to access our information, programs, and services.
- Foster a diverse, responsive, and welcoming workforce.
- Implement a clear and collaborative Tribal engagement and consultation framework to ensure we uphold the Government-to-Government relationship and promote consistency in how we invite consultation and meaningful engagement with Tribes.
- Engage with diverse parties, including government entities, communities, nongovernmental organizations, and businesses.
- Listen and learn from our employees, Tribes, interested parties, communities and regulated entities while we apply continuous improvement principles to our processes, outreach, and services.
- Promote access to and effectively manage public funds while leveraging diverse funding sources that benefit the environment and public health.
- Stay current and update rules and programs to reflect legal requirements, new science, and best practices.

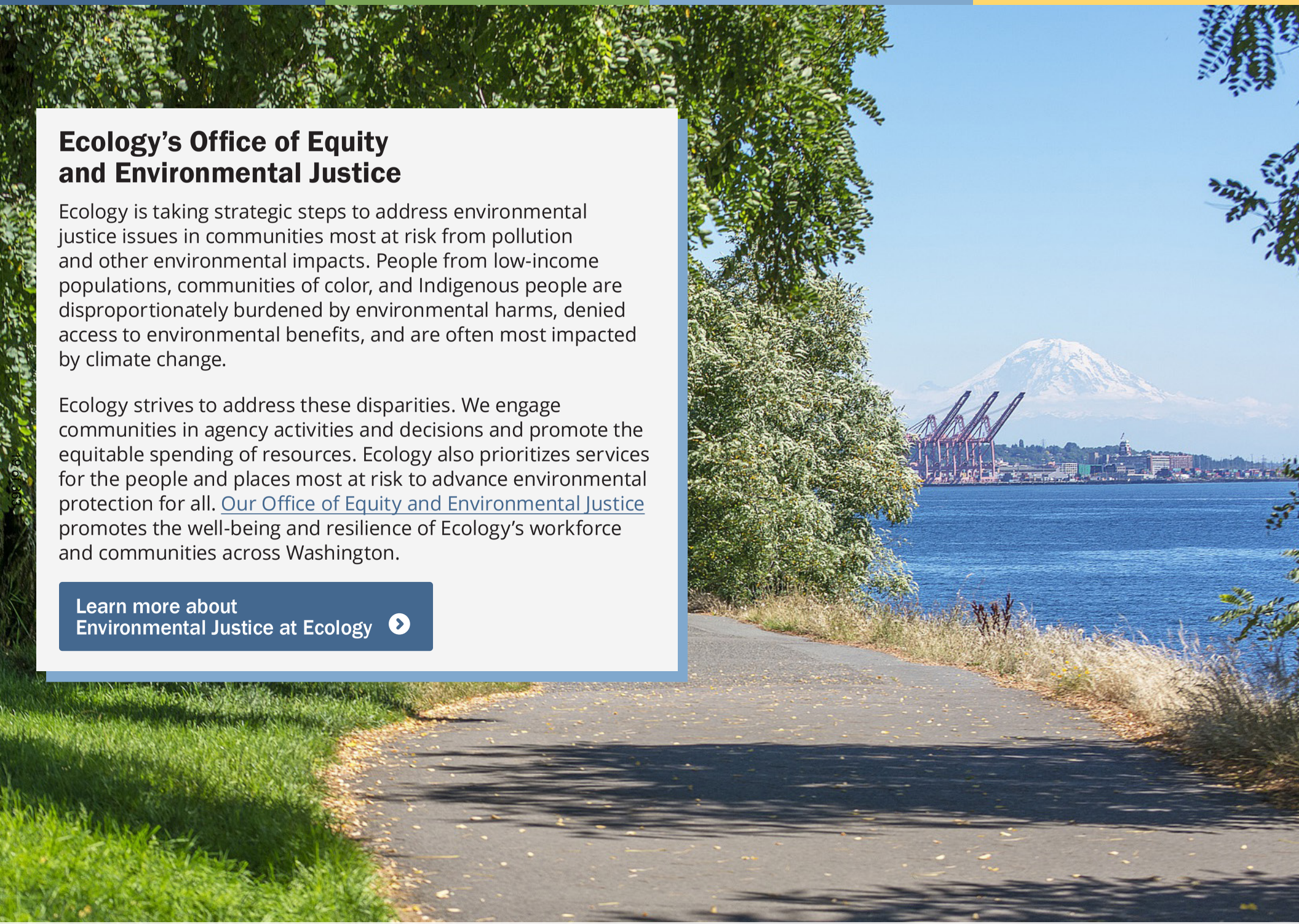


Ecology's Office of Equity and Environmental Justice

Ecology is taking strategic steps to address environmental justice issues in communities most at risk from pollution and other environmental impacts. People from low-income populations, communities of color, and Indigenous people are disproportionately burdened by environmental harms, denied access to environmental benefits, and are often most impacted by climate change.

Ecology strives to address these disparities. We engage communities in agency activities and decisions and promote the equitable spending of resources. Ecology also prioritizes services for the people and places most at risk to advance environmental protection for all. Our Office of Equity and Environmental Justice promotes the well-being and resilience of Ecology's workforce and communities across Washington.

Learn more about Environmental Justice at Ecology



Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

1.1 Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services.

Initiatives:

A. Implement environmental justice goals and initiatives to reduce environmental and health disparities and advance environmental justice in our programs.

B. Implement Ecology's Community Engagement Plan, leveraging our internal engagement network to coordinate and promote the guidance and best practices in the plan.

C. Strengthen Ecology's language access practices through policy, guidance, training, technical assistance, and performance measures.

D. Enhance our Tribal outreach, engagement, and consultation by implementing an updated Tribal engagement and consultation framework.

E. Assess user experience with our website to understand how customers use it and use that data to update its design.

F. Implement a process for community members and organizations to submit environmentally beneficial project ideas for Ecology's review and approval.Individuals or businesses that we take enforcement actions on can then propose to implement these ideas as part of an enforcement settlement.



Engagement at Ecology

Ecology continues to build upon its long-standing commitment to uphold the Government-to-Government relationship with federally recognized Tribes and engage with Washington's diverse public. With fresh momentum provided by the HEAL Act (Chapter 70A.02 RCW), we are taking action to center equity and environmental justice in our community engagement and enhance how we engage and consult with Tribes. To support this work, Ecology created several new positions in our Office of Equity and Environmental Justice that focus on equitable language access and community engagement across Ecology's programs. This will help us reduce access barriers, facilitate equitable opportunities for engagement, and strengthen our relationships with Tribes and communities.

Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

1.2 Improve recruiting, hiring, and retention practices and employee satisfaction to support a diverse, knowledgeable, inclusive, and skilled workforce.

Initiatives:

A. Develop and implement Ecology's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Respect (DEIR) Strategic Plan based on feedback and results from our previous assessment and employee feedback.

B. Improve the hiring process to mitigate bias, build job seeker resources, increase employee and applicant understanding of the recruitment process, and reduce barriers to applying, interviewing, and getting hired.

C. Improve the employee onboarding experience by collaborating and partnering with employees, implementing improved business processes, and ensuring new employees and hiring managers have the information and resources they need.

D. Develop and implement employee engagement and retention strategies based on insights gained through our DEIR Dashboard, Employee Engagement Survey, DEIR Organizational Assessment, and employee surveys.

E. Develop and communicate employee development pathways that include:
- Developmental assignments.
- Mentorship programs.
- Training opportunities.
- Technical, critical, and scientific knowledge transfer approaches.

F. Increase employees' understanding of the required training timelines through automated workflows, consistent branding and marketing, and employee dashboards.

G. Design and implement standardized and streamlined Human Resources business processes, leveraging opportunities for digital routing, approval and records management.

Goal 1 Objectives

Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees

1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability.

Initiatives:

A. Examine and advance equitable access to and distribute funding through grants, loans, vouchers, contracts, and other expenditure mechanisms.

B. Conduct annual comprehensive Safety and Health Performance Assessments (SHPAs) at our facilities to identify and mitigate potential hazards.

C. Implement our Ecology Data Strategy, adopt updated technologies, and transition to electronic workflows to enhance our operational efficiency, ensure data accuracy, and promote sustainability.

D. Modernize our enforcement tracking database to improve its efficiency, track actions more clearly, and advance our data analytics.

E. Fully support implementing One Washington (OneWA; a new statewide financial system). This includes increasing staff support to manage organizational change, training staff, and more complex and custom development of Ecology's financial and human resource systems.

F. Implement our Enterprise Content Management system (ECM) using automated workflows and standardized electronic systems to manage records and data.

G. Improve agency quality assurance guidance, transparency, and consistency that aligns with federal guidance.

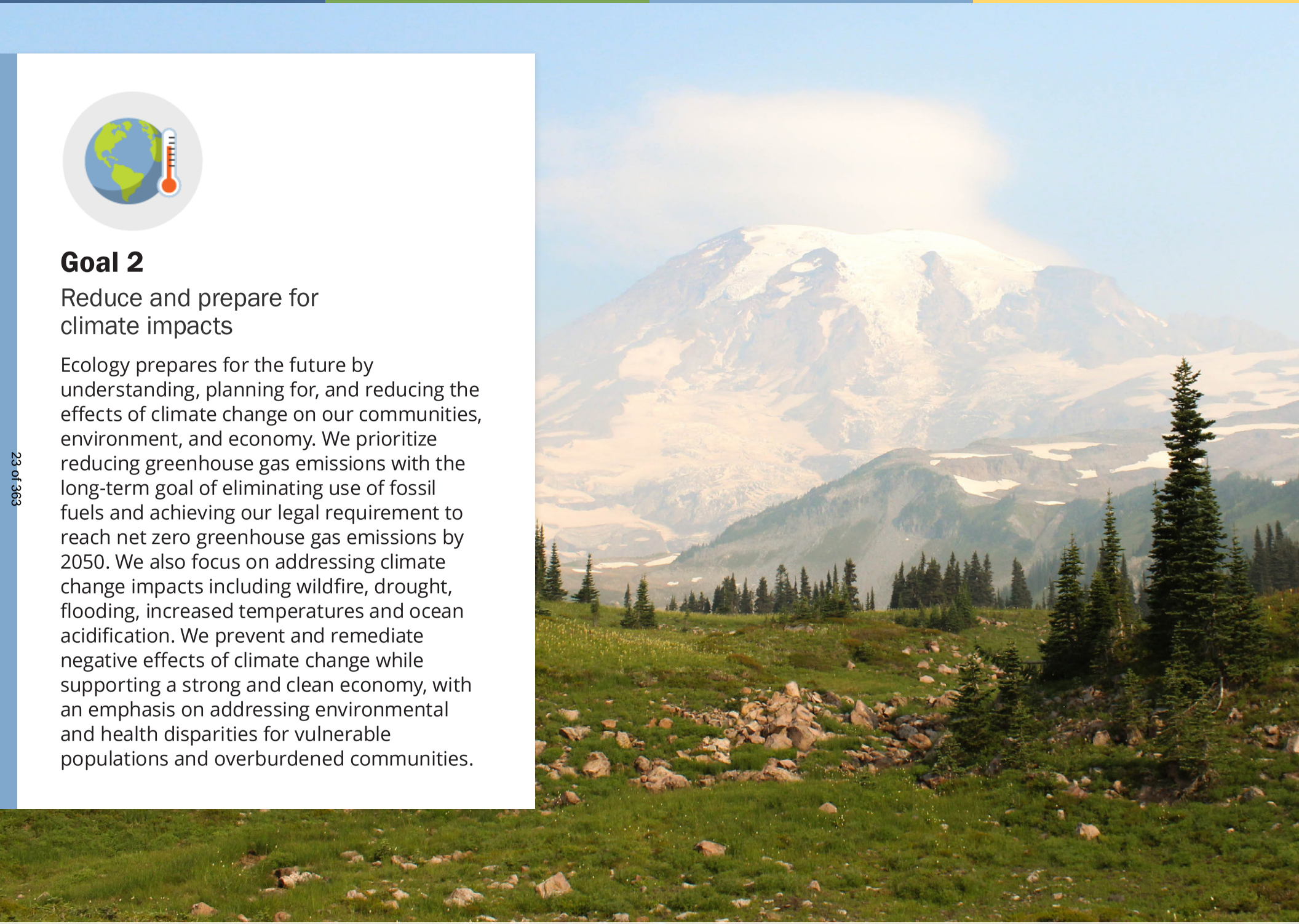


Ecology's approach to budget equity

We are integrating environmental justice and community engagement into decision processes related to budget development, contracts, grant and loan funding programs, and other expenditures. This includes:

- Evaluating program activities and expenditures for service equity and funding distribution gaps.
- Incorporating environmental justice considerations into grant scoring criteria.
- Advancing opportunities to direct program resources to areas and communities most in need.

We also set the goal to direct 40% of grants and expenditures to create environmental benefits for vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.



Goal 2

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

Ecology prepares for the future by understanding, planning for, and reducing the effects of climate change on our communities, environment, and economy. We prioritize reducing greenhouse gas emissions with the long-term goal of eliminating use of fossil fuels and achieving our legal requirement to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. We also focus on addressing climate change impacts including wildfire, drought, flooding, increased temperatures and ocean acidification. We prevent and remediate negative effects of climate change while supporting a strong and clean economy, with an emphasis on addressing environmental and health disparities for vulnerable populations and overburdened communities.



Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts

2.1 Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits.

Initiatives:

A. Implement Washington's Cap-and-Invest Program and pursue linking with the joint California and Québec carbon market.

B. Implement the Clean Fuel Standard and continue to grow a market to decrease the carbon intensity of Washington's transportation fuels.

C. Transition the state away from using restricted hydrofluorocarbons, which are potent greenhouse gases.

D. Reduce transportation emissions through the Clean Vehicles Program and conduct outreach, develop policy, and further implement the state Transportation Electrification Strategy.

E. Reduce Ecology's greenhouse gas emissions through our agency's electric vehicle strategy, implementing building and field operations efficiencies and looking for opportunities for clean-energy options in our operations.

F. Support diverse methods for managing organic wastes and using compost to reduce organic materials put in landfills and the methane emissions it causes.

G. Operate the Washington Center for Sustainable Food Management and implement the Use Food Well Washington Plan to prevent wasted food, get useable food to those in need, then safely manage and recycle what remains to reduce food waste by 50% before 2030.

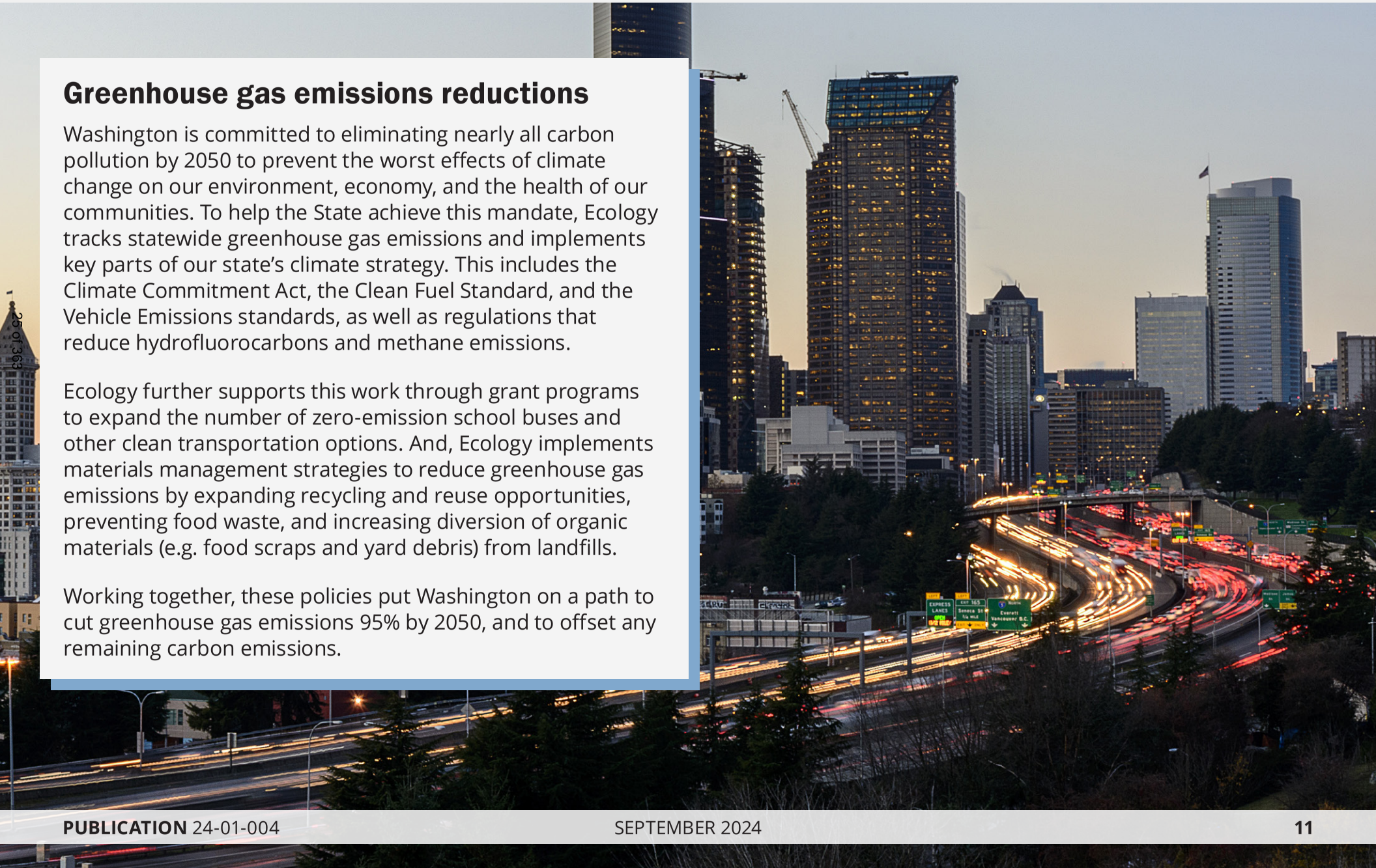
H. To support our work to lower or eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, we will:

- Improve our greenhouse gas emissions inventory to reduce our data collection time.
- Catalogue an expanded set of emissions such as high-emission facilities, waste recovery, consumption-based emissions, and short-lived climate pollutants.
- Develop additional greenhouse gas emission reduction policies, programs and technical assistance.
- Develop solutions that restore and enhance natural processes to reduce emissions.

I. Expand our clean-energy coordination and development in the State. This includes providing technical assistance to explore or incentivize developing brownfields for clean energy projects.

Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts



Greenhouse gas emissions reductions

Washington is committed to eliminating nearly all carbon pollution by 2050 to prevent the worst effects of climate change on our environment, economy, and the health of our communities. To help the State achieve this mandate, Ecology tracks statewide greenhouse gas emissions and implements key parts of our state's climate strategy. This includes the Climate Commitment Act, the Clean Fuel Standard, and the Vehicle Emissions standards, as well as regulations that reduce hydrofluorocarbons and methane emissions.

Ecology further supports this work through grant programs to expand the number of zero-emission school buses and other clean transportation options. And, Ecology implements materials management strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by expanding recycling and reuse opportunities, preventing food waste, and increasing diversion of organic materials (e.g. food scraps and yard debris) from landfills.

Working together, these policies put Washington on a path to cut greenhouse gas emissions 95% by 2050, and to offset any remaining carbon emissions.

Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts



2.2 Increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change through planning, response, recovery, and adaptation efforts.

Initiatives:

A. Fulfill Ecology's commitments identified in the Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy and lead ongoing implementation and governance.*

B. Evaluate and adapt our guidance, policies, plans, authorities, and modeling to incorporate consideration of current and expected future impacts of climate change into our work. Incorporate and clarify the processes and guidance for Tribes and underserved communities so they can be collaborators in this work and help the state avoid further inequities.*

C. Address sea level rise impacts, riparian habitat restoration and protection, and increased storm severity by updating the state Shoreline Master Program (SMP) rules and guidance and implementing Ecology's Puget Sound Armoring Strategic Plan*

D. In response to decreasing snowpack and low stream flow, conduct research to learn more about mitigation actions, identify supporting actions to improve water security, and develop water storage and supply solutions in Central and Eastern Washington watersheds.*

E. Protect against flood damage, for example in the Chehalis River basin and Puget Sound region, by identifying areas of potential improvement. We will provide underserved populations with resources to better protect themselves and their property, and support the adoption of improved local ordinances and practices.*

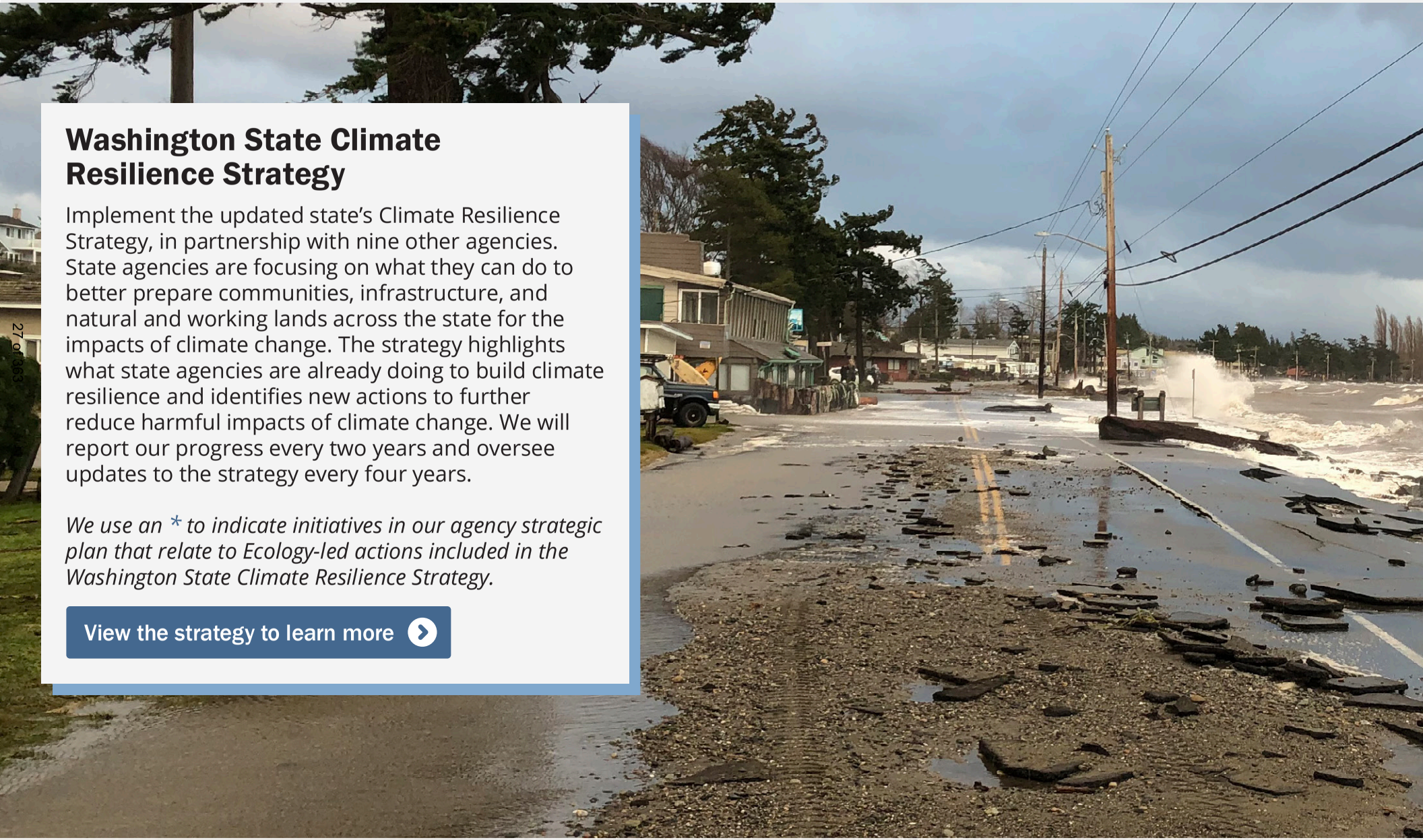
F. Prepare a white paper to support our economic forecasting analyses about the cost estimates of climate change impacts over time.

G. Expand stream gauge monitoring to support water quality improvement projects and inform water availability in the face of climate change impacts.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy

Goal 2 Objectives

Reduce and prepare for climate impacts



Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy

Implement the updated state's Climate Resilience Strategy, in partnership with nine other agencies. State agencies are focusing on what they can do to better prepare communities, infrastructure, and natural and working lands across the state for the impacts of climate change. The strategy highlights what state agencies are already doing to build climate resilience and identifies new actions to further reduce harmful impacts of climate change. We will report our progress every two years and oversee updates to the strategy every four years.

*We use an * to indicate initiatives in our agency strategic plan that relate to Ecology-led actions included in the Washington State Climate Resilience Strategy.*

View the strategy to learn more

27 of 363

Goal 3

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

Our consumer product and producer-responsibility programs address toxic chemicals and pollution during product design, manufacturing, recycling or waste management. We aim to reduce toxic chemical use and waste generation through regulation, technical assistance, and incentives. Our regulatory policies reduce air, land, and water pollution, and provide vital information to communities and first responders about local toxic risks. Our compliance and cleanup programs hold polluters accountable, reduce risks, and support safely remediating or removing contamination from spills, toxic chemicals, or waste materials released into the environment.



Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

3.1 Reduce or prevent the use or release of toxic chemicals in products and business processes.

Initiatives:

A. Implement consumer product laws, such as Safer Products for Washington and the Toxics Free Cosmetics Act, to evaluate chemical hazards, conduct rulemaking to establish restrictions or other requirements, support small businesses and disproportionately impacted communities, and establish compliance approaches.

B. Address toxics in tires by developing an ongoing management strategy for 6PPD and 6PPD-quinone. This includes:

- Identifying effective stormwater treatments for 6PPD-quinone,
- Identifying safer alternatives to 6PPD,
- Monitoring the environment for 6PPD-quinone, and
- Developing 6PPD-quinone laboratory methods for water, sediment, and fish tissue.



Toxics Free Cosmetics Act implementation

Many chemicals in cosmetic products are linked to harmful impacts on human health, such as cancer, hormone disruption, and negative impacts on reproductive and developmental health. The highest exposure happens when an individual uses a product that contains toxic chemicals.

These chemicals also cause widespread impacts to the environment and public health throughout the product life cycle, such as when they get washed down the drain or thrown in the trash and then enter the environment. This causes further impacts to human health and wildlife.

The Toxics Free Cosmetics Act (TFCA) improves cosmetic and personal care product safety and protects people and the environment from toxic chemicals. TFCA restricts the manufacture, distribution, and sale of cosmetic products that contain certain toxic chemicals within Washington. To implement this law, we are:

- Evaluating the hazards of chemicals that may be safer alternatives to restricted chemicals.
- Providing technical support to small businesses that make or use cosmetic products.
- Adopting a rule to restrict chemicals that release formaldehyde from being used in cosmetics.

Learn more about TFCA



Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution



3.2 Decrease waste generation and inefficient use of materials.

Initiatives:

A. Improve the recycling system by promoting recycling markets, supporting research and policy advancements, conducting outreach, and implementing recycled content and single-use plastics requirements.

B. Finalize a compost air emissions study and apply state-specific emission factors in our Air Quality Notice of Construction permit decision-making process.

C. Advance and implement producer responsibility policies to address complex waste streams, improve recycling, reduce waste, and shift financial burdens from ratepayers and local governments to producers.

D. Promote and offer technical assistance and incentives to help businesses reduce waste.

Recycling Market Development Center

The Recycling Market Development Center (RMDC) was created in 2019 in response to export restrictions on Washington's recyclables, which distressed state and local recycling programs. As a partnership between Ecology and Washington State Department of Commerce, the RMDC's mission is to strengthen recycling markets and processing in the state and help Washington achieve recycling's positive impacts on the economy and environment.

The RMDC holds discussions, conducts research, and provides business and technical assistance. It also supports the NextCycle Washington program, which provides hands-on-training and technical support to recycling and reuse innovators. In the first round of projects, the 14 teams of NextCycle Washington innovators diverted four million pounds of material from the landfill, created 70 jobs, and raised over $13 million in investments.

Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination.



Initiatives:

A. Expand air monitoring, analyze trends, and support communities to reduce air pollution. This includes supporting the transition to zero emission school buses and infrastructure.*

B. Identify and implement approaches to address PFAS contamination in water supplies, biosolids, cleanup sites, landfills, and the environment.

C. Pursue federal funding to secure compliant United States Department of Energy budgets that support Hanford Site cleanup activities. This includes tank waste treatment, groundwater, soil remediation, and facility cleanup.

D. Reduce litter through diverse partnerships, behavior change strategies, and pickup programs.

E. Assess and prioritize contaminated sites using the new Site Hazard Assessment Ranking Process (SHARP) to help with site cleanup.

F. Evaluate our Dangerous Waste regulatory compliance and enforcement process and identify recommendations to make the process more efficient.

G. Assess historical leaking underground storage tank sites and address environmental contamination.

H. Inspect underground storage tanks every three years to reduce leaks.

I. Implement the new Hanford Holistic Negotiations agreement between Ecology, U. S. Department of Energy, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency including retrieval of waste from aging underground storage tanks and startup of tank waste treatment.

J. Support and encourage the safe transition to low and zero-carbon maritime fuels by taking steps to align our regulations with federal requirements for transferring liquid hazardous substances to and from vessels.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy

Goal 3 Objectives

Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution

Protecting public and environmental health from "forever chemicals" in Washington

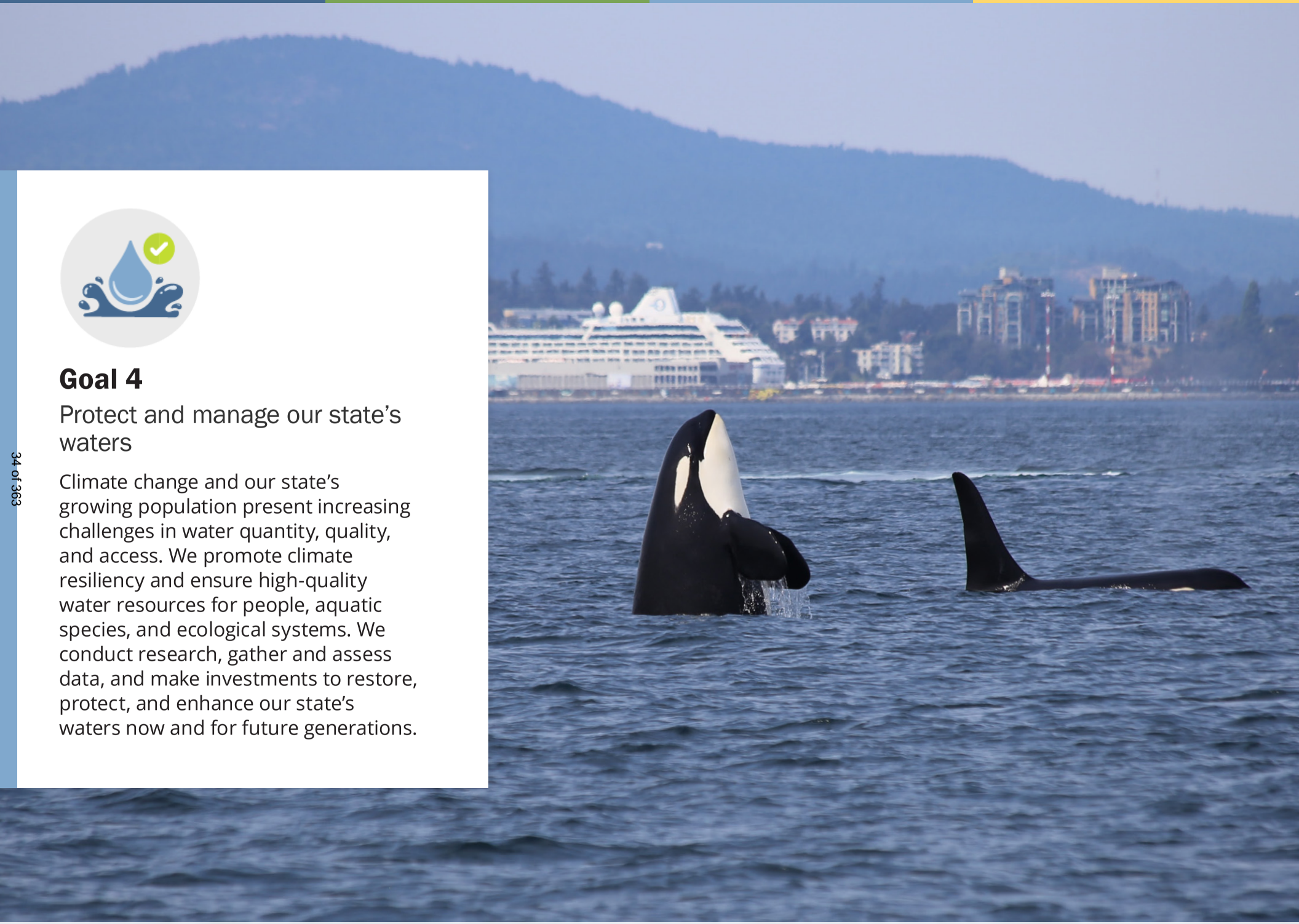
A large group of manufactured "forever chemicals" are per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances — also known as PFAS. Many industrial applications use PFAS because of the helpful functions these chemicals can provide. However, they can build up in organisms and be transferred to others in the food chain. Their toxicity persists in the environment for long periods of time.

For example, PFAS are common in firefighting gear and foam, nonstick cookware, carpets, food packaging, clothing, cosmetics, and other consumer products because of their ability to resist oil, grease, and water. Because of widespread use, PFAS have been detected in many parts of our environment and communities, including in surface waters, groundwater, wastewater treatment plant effluent, compost, and freshwater and marine sediments. PFAS have contaminated drinking water supplies in Washington, notably in areas where firefighting foam was repeatedly applied.

With continued exposure, the level of these chemicals builds up over time in our bodies, our food, and in wildlife. PFAS exposure in humans can increase cholesterol levels, reduce birth weight, reduce immune antibody response, and increase some cancer rates. We are addressing PFAS contamination in Washington in several ways. This includes restricting its use in consumer products, monitoring and sampling areas to know where it is, updating permits to reflect new water quality and dangerous waste criteria and best practices, and conducting cleanup efforts.

Learn more about PFAS





Goal 4

Protect and manage our state's waters

Climate change and our state's growing population present increasing challenges in water quantity, quality, and access. We promote climate resiliency and ensure high-quality water resources for people, aquatic species, and ecological systems. We conduct research, gather and assess data, and make investments to restore, protect, and enhance our state's waters now and for future generations.



Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

4.1 Increase and preserve access to water for fish, wildlife, and municipal, domestic, and agricultural needs.

Initiatives:

A. Reduce the time it takes to process water right applications so that people and businesses get more timely answers, and we better protect the environment.

B. Increase water availability in the Columbia River Basin for municipal, domestic, and agricultural purposes and promote water exchanges, improved efficiencies, and alternative water supplies.*

C. Expand how reclaimed water can be used to encourage water reuse, increase water availability, and adapt to a changing climate.*

D. Initiate improvements to how we manage water resources data and increase data transparency. This includes linking water rights and water use data and improving our public mapping tools.

E. Legally decide who has water rights (through adjudication) in Water Resource Inventory Area 1, the Nooksack Watershed. This will provide certainty and support the economy and natural environment.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy

Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

4.2 Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters.

Initiatives:

A. Implement the Puget Sound Nutrient Reduction Project to reduce nitrogen loading in Puget Sound, improve dissolved oxygen, and meet water quality standards.*

B. Identify waters, biannually, that do not meet water quality standards and support the cleanup and restoration of degraded waters.

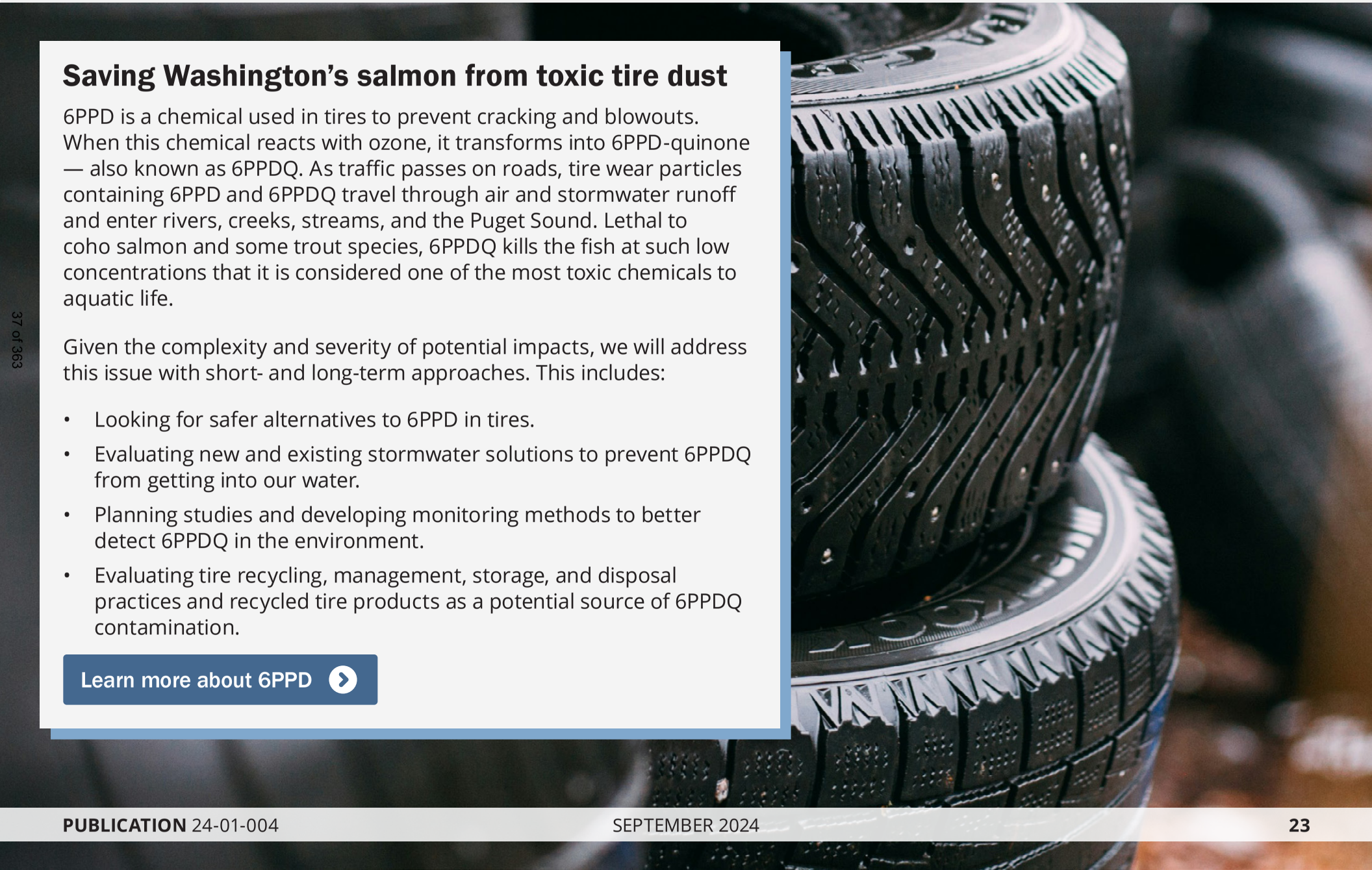
C. Implement a Certificate of Financial Responsibility program to make sure companies in Washington have the financial ability to pay for their worst-case oil spill scenario.

D. Coordinate across agencies to address harmful algae blooms.*

E. Provide local communities with technical assistance and financial support to implement municipal, industrial, and stormwater permits so they can reduce or eliminate pollutants including PFAS and 6PPD-quinone, from wastewater and stormwater runoff.

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy





Saving Washington's salmon from toxic tire dust

6PPD is a chemical used in tires to prevent cracking and blowouts. When this chemical reacts with ozone, it transforms into 6PPD-quinone — also known as 6PPDQ. As traffic passes on roads, tire wear particles containing 6PPD and 6PPDQ travel through air and stormwater runoff and enter rivers, creeks, streams, and the Puget Sound. Lethal to coho salmon and some trout species, 6PPDQ kills the fish at such low concentrations that it is considered one of the most toxic chemicals to aquatic life.

Given the complexity and severity of potential impacts, we will address this issue with short- and long-term approaches. This includes:

- Looking for safer alternatives to 6PPD in tires.
- Evaluating new and existing stormwater solutions to prevent 6PPDQ from getting into our water.
- Planning studies and developing monitoring methods to better detect 6PPDQ in the environment.
- Evaluating tire recycling, management, storage, and disposal practices and recycled tire products as a potential source of 6PPDQ contamination.

Learn more about 6PPD

Goal 4 Objectives

Protect and manage our state's waters

4.3 Improve floodplains, wetlands, watersheds, streamflow, and riparian habitats.

Initiatives:

A. We will establish a new permitting process to allow landowners and developers to work or build within state waters, including wetlands. This includes mitigating impacts to wetlands and ensuring best management practices are used for other waters.

B. Support projects that improve riparian management and fish habitat and build community resilience by providing technical and financial assistance to:

- Remove fish barriers.
- Accelerate water quality clean-up plans.
- Improve stream conditions.
- Reduce hard bank stabilization practices.
- Support salmon recovery.
- Update flood and risk maps.*

C. Continue implementing the Chehalis Basin Strategy by working with local governments, Tribes, private landowners, and other interested parties to reduce flood-related damage and bolster aquatic species restoration in the Chehalis River basin.*

D. Fund easements and property acquisitions to benefit aquatic species, protect working lands, and reduce flood damage.*

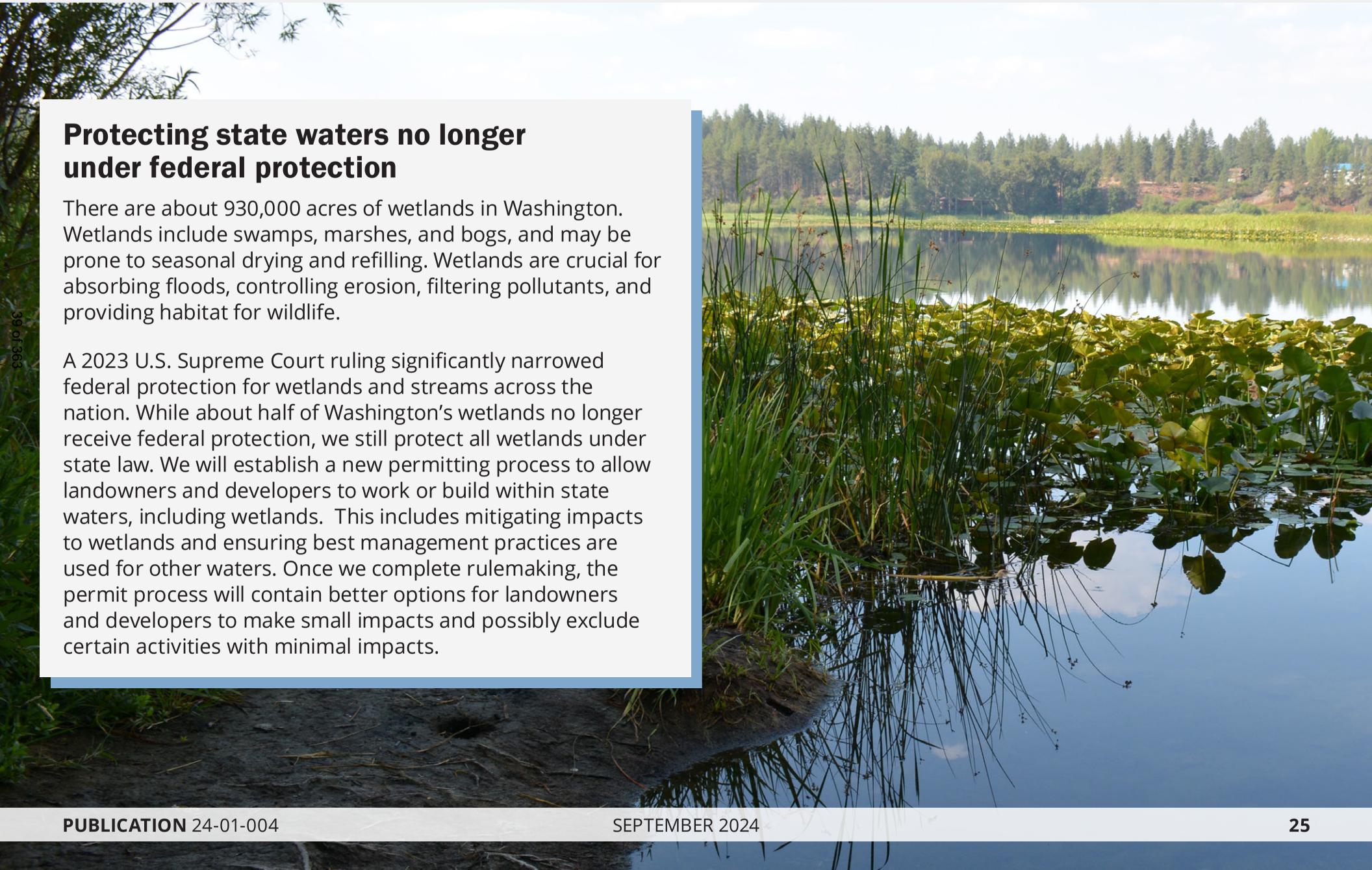
E. Increase metering and watermaster staffing to actively manage water use, improve resilience to climate change impacts, and ensure water rights holders are complying with state laws.*

* indicates initiatives that relate to Ecology-led actions in Washington's Climate Resilience Strategy



Goal 4 Objectives

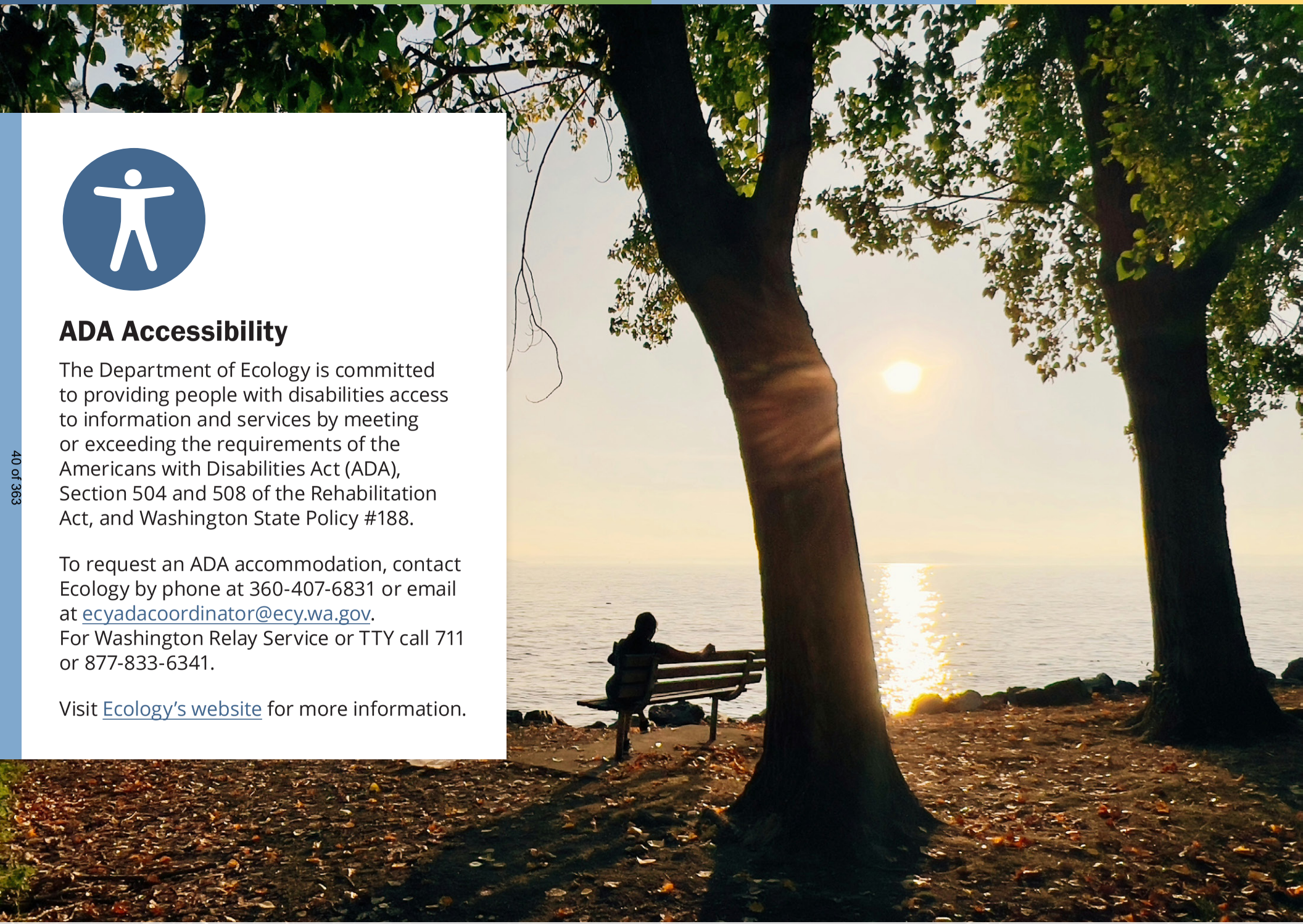
Protect and manage our state's waters



Protecting state waters no longer under federal protection

There are about 930,000 acres of wetlands in Washington. Wetlands include swamps, marshes, and bogs, and may be prone to seasonal drying and refilling. Wetlands are crucial for absorbing floods, controlling erosion, filtering pollutants, and providing habitat for wildlife.

A 2023 U.S. Supreme Court ruling significantly narrowed federal protection for wetlands and streams across the nation. While about half of Washington's wetlands no longer receive federal protection, we still protect all wetlands under state law. We will establish a new permitting process to allow landowners and developers to work or build within state waters, including wetlands. This includes mitigating impacts to wetlands and ensuring best management practices are used for other waters. Once we complete rulemaking, the permit process will contain better options for landowners and developers to make small impacts and possibly exclude certain activities with minimal impacts.



ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #188.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-407-6831 or email at ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov.
For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Visit Ecology's website for more information.

Department of Ecology
2027-29 Agency Activity Inventory Descriptions

September 6, 2026

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A002	Administration	The administration activity supports agency functions by providing leadership, cross-program support, and staff presence throughout the state. Administration manages the agency's long-term financial health and provides information to support sound decision-making and resource management by managers. Communication, education, and outreach tools play a major role in protecting and improving the environment. Administration staff serve as liaisons to Congress, the state Legislature, local governments, businesses, Indian tribes, and environmental and citizen groups. Administration helps managers and employees create a safe, supportive, and diverse work environment by providing comprehensive human resource services. It also oversees information management (desktop and network services, application development, and data administration) and facility and vehicle management; maintains the agency's centralized records and library resources; responds to public records requests; and provides mail services.
A003	Implementing Integrated Solutions to Protect Instream Resources	Ecology staff seeks to meet increasing water demands from population growth, while protecting limited instream resources and adapting to climate change. Actions include: • Instream flow rules - Work with local stakeholders to implement and update, as needed, instream flow rules for fish and wildlife, recreation, and other instream resources. Evaluate regions of the state that are experiencing conflict over water, as potential areas for adjudication. • Streamflow Restoration - Work with watershed groups to establish or revise a streamflow restoration plan to mitigate the impacts of new domestic water use. • Section 401 federal licensing of dams - Collaborate with local governments, tribes, and other stakeholders to develop permit conditions for hydropower facilities that ensure minimum instream flows are met and that stream flows are adjusted to adapt to water supply conditions during the 50 year license period. • Water acquisition - Acquire senior water rights to restore and protect stream flows. Review municipal and industrial reclaimed water projects and water system plans to ensure new uses of water do not impair senior rights. Monitor water supply conditions that may impact water rights and the environment, and respond when water supplies are impacted by drought.
A005	Clean up the Most Contaminated Sites First (Upland and Aquatic)	Ecology protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated upland sites and contaminated sediments in the aquatic environment. Resources are first focused on cleaning up contaminated sites that pose the greatest risk to public health and the environment. These include sites where contamination threatens drinking water, exists in a large quantity, is very toxic, may affect a waterbody or the environmental health of sediments, or may affect people that are living, working, or recreating near the site. Contamination may be in the soil, sediments, underground water, air, drinking water, or surface water. Ecology also manages multi agency upland and sediment cleanup projects. Cleaning up these sites protects public health, safeguards the environment, and promotes local economic development by making land available for new industries and other beneficial uses.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A006	Clean Up Polluted Waters	The federal Clean Water Act requires the agency to develop water quality standards and to identify water bodies that fail to meet those standards. The agency does this by reviewing thousands of water quality data samples and publishing an integrated water quality assessment report. This report lists the water bodies that do not meet standards. Ecology then works with local interests to prepare water quality improvement reports to reduce pollution, establish conditions in discharge permits and nonpoint source management plans, and monitor the effectiveness of the improvement report.
A007	Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control	Ecology conducts pollution identification studies to address known or suspected problems at specific sites and across regional areas. These studies support our efforts under the federal Clean Water Act, as well as the state Water Pollution Control and Model Toxics Control Acts. Studies range from simple water quality sampling for bacteria or dissolved oxygen, to very complex projects assessing the amount of nutrients in large watersheds. Many projects support development of water quality improvement plans or Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDLs) to assess how much of a pollutant a waterbody can absorb without exceeding water quality standards.
A008	Control Stormwater Pollution	Ecology prepares tools, provides assistance, and offers compliance strategies to control the quantity and quality of stormwater runoff from development and industrial activities. The agency currently provides training and assistance to communities and industries on stormwater manuals and the Western Washington hydrology model. Ecology works with local governments and other stakeholders to implement a municipal stormwater program and permitting system.
A009	Eliminate Waste and Promote Material Reuse	The Department of Ecology: • Provides technical assistance to local governments for waste reduction, and recycling, including focus on reducing contamination, addressing plastic packaging, and developing marketing programs for recycled commodities. • Implements plastic and single-use packaging laws. • Supports recycling and reuse market development through the Recycling Development Center. • Reduces wasted food through a state food waste reduction and diversion plan and the Center for Sustainable Food Management. • Provides technical assistance to promote reuse of organic materials. • Ensures an environmentally compliant biosolids program in the state. • Promotes environmentally preferred purchasing. • Oversees producer managed recycling programs.
A010	Prevent and Pick Up Litter	The Department of Ecology is the state's lead agency managing litter programs. We operate youth and adult litter pickup crews and provide funding for litter pickup and prevention to state and local governments. We work with partners across the state to promote litter prevention and secure vehicle loads for safer, cleaner highways and public areas.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A011	Ensure Dam Safety	This activity protects life, property, and the environment by overseeing the safety of Washington's dams. This includes inspecting the structural integrity and flood and earthquake safety of existing state dams not managed by the federal government; approving and inspecting new dam construction and repairs; and taking compliance and emergency actions.
A012	Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data	Ecology accredits environmental laboratories that submit data to the agency and to the Department of Health. The accreditation program covers analyses in all typical environmental matrices (air, water, soil, sediment, tissue), and drinking water. Accreditation ensures environmental laboratories have the demonstrated capability to provide accurate and defensible data. Ecology's laboratory accreditation program is the primary method of performance monitoring for over 400 laboratories in the accreditation program. Ecology will start accrediting cannabis laboratories in 2024. To prepare for this role, Ecology is leading the Cannabis Science Task Force to recommend lab quality standards for cannabis laboratories.
A013	Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste	The Department of Ecology provides planning assistance to local governments and financial assistance to local governments, non-governmental organizations, and community groups through three grant programs: • Local Solid Waste Financial Assistance (LSWFA) grants to local governments for solid waste planning, implementation, and enforcement. • Public Participation Grants (PPG) to interest groups for public outreach and education. • Waste Reduction and Recycling Education (WRRED) grants to local governments and non profit organizations for public outreach and education.
A014	Restore the Air, Soil, and Water Contaminated from Past Activities at Hanford	The agency protects public health and natural resources by working to restore the public use of air, soil, and water at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation by cleaning up contaminated sites from past activities. Radioactive and hazardous contaminants are removed, residual contaminants are contained and monitored, and mitigation of natural resource damage on Hanford occurs.
A015	Clean Up and Remove Large, Complex, Contaminated Facilities throughout Hanford	The agency oversees the decommissioning of the large, complex, and high-risk facilities throughout the Hanford site and provides regulatory oversight of mixed waste management activities at facilities not under the management of the U.S. Department of Energy (Columbia Generating Station, Perma-Fix Northwest, and the U.S. Navy's Puget Sound Naval Shipyard).
A016	Treat and Dispose of Hanford's High-Level Radioactive Tank Waste	The agency protects public health and natural resources by providing regulatory oversight for the treatment and removal of highly radioactive tank waste at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation. This activity is focused on the design, permitting, construction, and operation of the Hanford Waste Treatment Plant, the Integrated Disposal Facility (a mixed, low-level waste landfill), and immobilized high-level waste storage facility.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A017	Ensure Safe Tank Operations, Storage of Tank Wastes, & Closure of the Waste Storage Tanks at Hanford	The agency protects public health and the environment by enforcing regulatory compliance at the Hanford site to ensure the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of the high-level radioactive tank waste according to the Hanford Tank Waste Project.
A018	Ensure the Safe Management of Radioactive Mixed Waste at Hanford	The agency provides regulatory oversight for the safe storage, treatment, and disposal of liquid and solid dangerous and radioactive mixed wastes at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, as well as at radioactive mixed-waste sites throughout the state. This activity regulates the management of this historic and ongoing waste stream, and ensures the retrieval, treatment, and safe disposal of high-risk transuranic and high activity wastes currently buried in shallow, unlined trenches.
A019	Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information	This activity supports the work the agency does to: Provide the public and local governments with information about the type, location, and source of hazardous substances in local communities. • Provide waste generators with best practices and other helpful information. • Collect, manage, and report hazardous waste generation data to meet EPA's data reporting and community right to know requirements. • Engage with various interested parties and communities to inform environmental justice and hazardous waste and toxics reduction efforts
A020	Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making	To ensure the reliability and integrity of data Ecology generates, agency staff: • Provide guidance and training on developing quality assurance project plans. • Review project proposals. • Consult on sampling design requirements and interpretation of results. This quality assurance work is required by the Environmental Protection Agency for entities (including Ecology) that receive funding for work involving environmental data. In addition, Ecology scientists, modelers, statisticians, chemists, and other specialists: • Interpret technical data. • Review grantee monitoring plans. • Supply information for policy decisions to support agency mandates

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A021	Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management, Pollution Prevention, and Compliance with Dangerous	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Conduct dangerous waste compliance inspections, escalating to formal enforcement actions when necessary. • Amends the Dangerous Waste Regulations to keep our rules current with the federal program and maintain state authorization. • Provide dangerous waste management and pollution prevention education and technical assistance to businesses, including via local specialists through the Pollution Prevention Assistance partnership. • Issue permits to facilities that treat, store, or dispose of dangerous waste, and ensure that proper financial assurance requirements are in place.
A023	Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases	Ecology currently regulates over 10,000 active tanks on over 3,600 different properties, including gas stations, industries, commercial properties, and governmental entities. We ensure tanks are installed, managed, and monitored according to federal standards and in a way that prevents releases into the environment. This is done through compliance inspections and providing technical assistance to tank owners and operators. Properly managing such tanks saves millions of dollars in cleanup costs and prevents contamination of limited drinking water and other groundwater resources.
A024	Manage Water Rights	The agency allocates surface and ground water to meet the state's many water supply needs. Ecology staff makes decisions on applications for new water rights, changes to existing water rights, and by participating in water rights adjudications in areas where additional certainty is needed.
A025	Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions	This activity supports the work the agency does to collect and monitor air quality and emissions data used to assess trends; assist compliance; and assess control strategies, health effects, and environmental damage from air pollution.
A026	Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses	The Manchester Environmental Laboratory is a full service environmental laboratory. The lab provides technical, analytical, and sampling support for chemistry and microbiology for multiple Ecology programs, and supports work conducted under the federal Clean Water Act, as well as the state Water Pollution Control, Puget Sound Water Quality Protection, Children's Safe Products and Model Toxics Control Acts.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A027	Monitor the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide	Ecology operates a statewide environmental monitoring network to: • Assess the status of major waterbodies. • Identify threatened or impaired waters. • Evaluate changes and trends in water quality over time. This network includes sampling stations in rivers, streams, and marine waters (Puget Sound and the major coastal estuaries). Ecology measures statewide biological, chemical, and habitat conditions to provide information on the health of watersheds on a regional scale. Ecology also measures stream flows in salmon critical basins and key watersheds statewide.
A028	Improve Environmental Compliance at State's Largest Industrial Facilities	The Department of Ecology provides a single point of contact for compliance reviews and technical assistance for petroleum refineries, pulp and paper mills, and aluminum smelters so they have consistent regulatory oversight.
A030	Prepare for Aggressive Response to Oil and Hazardous Material Incidents	This activity ensures large commercial vessels, oil handling facilities, and railroad operators that transport oil by rail maintain state-approved oil spill contingency plans so they can rapidly and effectively respond to major oil spills. State planning standards ensure response equipment and personnel are strategically staged throughout the state. This work is carried out through staff review and approval of contingency plans, drills that test contingency plans, development of geographic response plans, and maintenance of a regional contingency plan in partnership with other agencies.
A031	Remediate Hazardous Waste Pollution and Restore Contaminated Sites to Productive Use	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Oversee cleanup of high-priority corrective action sites. • Provide pollution prevention and toxics reduction technical assistance to hazardous waste generators.
A032	Prevent Point Source Water Pollution	Ecology protects Washington's water by regulating point source discharges of pollutants to surface and ground waters. This is done with a wastewater permit program for sewage treatment plants and an industrial discharge program for other industries. A permit is a rigorous set of limits, monitoring requirements, or management practices, usually specific to a discharge, designed to ensure a facility can meet treatment standards and water quality limits. The permit is followed by regular inspections and site visits. Technical assistance and follow-up on permit violations also are provided through various means.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A033	Prevent Oil Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities	Ecology works with communities and regulated entities to prevent spills from vessels and oil handling facilities through inspections, review and approval of plans and manuals, technical assistance, incident investigation, and risk assessment work.
A034	Prevent Unhealthy Air and Violations of Air Quality Standards	This activity supports the work the agency does to develop and implement State Implementation Plans to maintain healthy air, prevent violations, and cleanup areas that violate standards as quickly as possible.
A035	Promote Compliance with Water Laws	The agency helps ensure that water users comply with the state's water laws so that other legal water users are not impaired; water use remains sustainable over the long term; and the environment is protected for the benefit of people and nature. Activities include water metering and reporting 80 percent of water use in 16 fish critical basins, along with education, technical assistance, and strategic enforcement in egregious cases.
A036	Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments	The Shoreline Management Act establishes a cooperative program between local and state governments, in which local governments develop and administer local Shoreline Master Programs, and the Department of Ecology provides support and oversight. The agency is involved in shoreline management in four primary ways: developing guidelines for local shoreline programs; providing technical assistance to local governments and applicants on shoreline planning and permitting activities; reviewing and approving amendments to local shoreline master programs; and reviewing permits to ensure resource protection and implementation of the law. The agency works with local governments on permit compliance by responding to public inquiries and complaints, making field visits, providing compliance-related technical assistance, and issuing notices of correction, orders, and penalties. Properly managed shorelines provide habitat for fish and wildlife, minimize flooding and property damage, and provide land-use certainty to local landowners.
A037	Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Construction Projects	The Department of Ecology issues water quality certifications and Coastal Zone Management Act consistency determinations for water-related construction projects. Staff provide early review on projects whenever possible (e.g., through State Environmental Policy Act review and pre-application meetings) and provide project guidance and technical assistance through phone calls, e-mails, site visits, and workshops. Projects are approved, denied, or conditioned to protect water quality, sediment quality, and fish and shellfish habitat. This activity allows the state to actively participate in federal permitting activities to ensure that state interests are adequately represented and considered.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A038	Protect, Restore, and Manage Wetlands	The Department of Ecology is the lead agency responsible for implementing the state Water Pollution Control Act, which requires the protection of wetlands. The agency provides leadership on wetlands issues, coordinates statewide policy issues, and develops new approaches for managing and restoring wetlands. The agency provides technical assistance to local governments, helping them implement requirements in the Shoreline Management and Growth Management acts. The agency also provides technical assistance to non-government entities on wetlands conservation and stewardship programs.
A040	Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards	The Department of Ecology administers the Flood Control Assistance Account Program, providing grants and technical assistance to local governments for flood damage reduction projects and comprehensive flood hazard management planning. Staff review and approve local Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plans and inspect construction of flood damage reduction projects. The Department of Ecology is also the state's coordinating agency for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and receives an annual Community Assistance Program grant to provide technical assistance and support to 286 communities enrolled in the NFIP. In this role, staff make regularly scheduled technical assistance visits to communities, assess local regulatory programs for compliance with state and federal requirements, and provide workshops and other outreach on flood hazard recognition and reduction. Proper flood control planning and projects protect both private and public property, as well as natural resources and fish and wildlife habitat.
A041	Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review	SEPA was adopted in 1971 to ensure that state and local decision makers consider the environmental impacts of their actions. The SEPA law provides an opportunity for local citizen involvement in the environmental review process and provides developers an opportunity to identify mitigation opportunities that facilitate overall project approval and minimize development costs. The agency provides training and assistance to local governments and the public, and manages the SEPA register.
A042	Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve	The Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Skagit County is part of a national network of reserves established to protect estuaries for research and education. The Padilla Bay Reserve conducts a broad array of public education programs, technical and professional training, coastal restoration, and scientific research and monitoring. Managed in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the reserve includes over 11,000 acres of tidelands and uplands; the Breazeale Interpretive Center with aquaria and touch pool; a research laboratory; residential quarters; trails; and support facilities. The reserve also provides funds and technical support to local Marine Resource Committees as part of the Northwest Straits Initiative, and administers the Northwest Straits Marine Commission.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A043	Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance	Ecology provides grants, low-interest loans, and technical assistance to local governments, state agencies, and tribes to enable them to build, upgrade, repair, or replace facilities to improve and protect water quality. This includes meeting the state's obligation to manage the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund in perpetuity. Ecology also funds nonpoint-source control projects such as watershed planning, stormwater management, freshwater aquatic weed management, education, and agricultural best management practices. Grants are targeted to nonpoint-source problems and communities where needed wastewater facilities projects would be a financial hardship for taxpayers. Local governments use loans for both point and nonpoint-source water pollution prevention and correction projects. Ecology coordinates grant and loan assistance with other state and federal funding agencies.
A044	Provide Water Resources Data and Information	The collection, management, and sharing of data and information is critical to modern water management. It is essential to local watershed groups, conservancy boards, businesses, local governments, nonprofit groups, the Legislature, other agencies, and the media. It supports daily agency operations, including making water allocation decisions; setting and achieving stream flows; identifying the location and characteristics of wells, dams, and water diversions; supporting compliance actions; metering; tracking progress; communicating with constituents; and serving other water resource functions.
A045	Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources	This activity supports the work the agency does to ensure new and existing industrial and commercial facilities that emit significant levels of air pollution comply with state and federal air quality standards.
A047	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions	This activity supports the work the agency does to implement Washington’s Clean Car standards and provide grants to incentivize cleaner motor vehicles and fuels.
A048	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke	This activity supports the work the agency does to : • Administer the state’s smoke management program that oversees outdoor burning and woodstoves. • Assist communities, local health organizations, and fire suppression agencies with health impact messaging and recommendations during large-scale wildfire events.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A049	Reduce Nonpoint-Source Water Pollution	Nonpoint-source pollution (polluted runoff) is the leading cause of water pollution and poses a major health and economic threat. Types of nonpoint pollution include fecal coliform bacteria, elevated water temperature, pesticides, sediments, and nutrients. Sources of pollution include agriculture, forestry, urban and rural runoff, recreation, hydrologic modification, and loss of aquatic ecosystems. Ecology addresses these problems through raising awareness; encouraging community action; providing funding; and supporting local decision makers. The agency also coordinates with other stakeholders through the Washington State Nonpoint Workgroup, the Forest Practices Technical Assistance group, and the Agricultural Technical Assistance group.
A052	Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste and the Use of Toxic Substances through Technical Assistance	This activity supports the work the agency does to provide pollution prevention and toxics reduction technical assistance to hazardous waste generators.
A053	Regulate Well Construction	The agency protects consumers, well drillers, and the environment by licensing and regulating well drillers, investigating complaints, approving variances from construction standards, and providing continuing education to well drillers. The work is accomplished in partnership with delegated counties. It delivers technical assistance to homeowners, well drillers, tribes, and local governments.
A054	Rapidly Respond to and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills	This activity ensures Ecology and its partners respond to spills in a rapid, aggressive, and well-coordinated manner to ensure impacts to the environment are minimized. Spill response capability is maintained 24 hours a day and seven days a week statewide. This includes ensuring the safety of the public and emergency responders, performing cleanup and oversight of cleanup activities, coordinating wildlife rescue and rehabilitation activities, providing timely information to the public and stakeholders about response activities, and implementing protection strategies to minimize impacts to Washington's environmental, cultural and economic resources. Enforcement actions are issued based on results of incident investigations.
A055	Restore Public Natural Resources Damaged by Oil Spills	When spills occur, Ecology provides incident notification to natural resource trustees and responds to the incident to assess impacts, collect samples, and determine the extent of injury to state publicly owned resources. Ecology then leads the interagency Resource Damage Assessment (RDA) Committee to assess damages and seek fair compensation for damages to Washington resources. Ecology works with the RDA Committee and responsible parties in funding, planning, and implementing effective restoration projects to restore impacted resources. Ecology manages the Coastal Protection Fund Grant process for restoration work, and performs follow-up restoration site visits to ensure they were effective.

Activity	Activity Title	Description
A056	Restore Watersheds by Supporting Community- Based Projects with the Washington Conservation Corps	The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1983 to conserve, rehabilitate, and enhance the state's natural and environmental resources, while providing educational opportunities and meaningful work experiences for young adults (ages 18-25). The WCC creates partnerships with federal, state, and local agencies, private entities, and nonprofit groups to complete a variety of conservation-related projects. These include stream and riparian restoration, wetlands restoration and enhancement, soil stabilization, and other forest restoration activities, fencing, and trail work. The WCC also provides emergency response and hazard mitigation services to local communities.
A057	Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites	Ecology provides services to site owners or operators who initiate clean up of their contaminated sites. Voluntary cleanups can be done in a variety of ways: Completely independent of the agency; independent with some agency assistance or review; or with agency oversight under a signed legal agreement (an agreed order or consent decree). They may be done through consultations, prepayment agreements, prospective purchaser agreements, and brownfields redevelopment. The voluntary cleanup program minimizes the need for public funding used for such cleanup and promotes local economic development through new industries and other beneficial uses of cleaned properties.
A063	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	This activity supports the work the agency does to conduct a biennial greenhouse gas emissions inventory, administer the state's mandatory greenhouse gas reporting program, and help state agencies and higher education institutions identify and report their greenhouse gas emissions and develop strategies to reduce those emissions.It also supports the work the agency does to implement a portfolio of policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to meet the state's greenhouse gas emission limits.
A064	Manage Solid Waste Safely	To ensure that solid waste handling and disposal facilities are in compliance with environmental requirements, Ecology: • Sets standards for the proper handling and disposal of solid waste. • Negotiates and implements cleanup orders under the Model Toxics Control Act, and oversees cleanup actions at solid waste facilities. • Provides technical assistance, permit review, and regulatory, engineering and hydrogeology expertise to local health departments who permit solid waste handling and disposal facilities.
A065	Reduce Toxic Chemicals in Products and Promote Safer Alternatives	This activity supports the work the agency does to: • Work with key organizations and interest groups, especially Department of Health, to identify chemicals of concern, review science, and develop and implement action plans to reduce presence of toxic chemicals in the environment. • Provide information safer alternatives and green chemistry to business, education, government, and public sectors. • Update and enforce statutory reporting requirements and limits in specific products.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Dollars in Thousands

ABS033 Performance Measure Incremental Estimates
461 Department of Ecology
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial

Activity:

CB	T0PL	No measures linked to activity
CB	T0PL	No measures linked to decision package
CL	5033	No measures linked to activity
CL	5033	No measures linked to decision package
CL	5284	No measures linked to activity
CL	5284	No measures linked to decision package
CL	6246	No measures linked to activity
CL	6246	No measures linked to decision package
CL	9F	No measures linked to activity
CL	9F	No measures linked to decision package
CL	ADJ1	No measures linked to activity
CL	ADJ1	No measures linked to decision package
CL	AGFL	No measures linked to activity
CL	AGFL	No measures linked to decision package
CL	B001	No measures linked to activity
CL	B001	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BB	No measures linked to activity
CL	BB	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BH	No measures linked to activity
CL	BH	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BJ	No measures linked to activity
CL	BJ	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BL	No measures linked to activity
CL	BL	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BPS	No measures linked to activity
CL	BPS	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BT	No measures linked to activity
CL	BT	No measures linked to decision package
CL	BV01	No measures linked to activity
CL	BV01	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CC01	No measures linked to activity
CL	CC01	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CCAR	No measures linked to activity

CL	CCAR	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CE	No measures linked to activity
CL	CE	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CLFP	No measures linked to activity
CL	CLFP	No measures linked to decision package
CL	CRS1	No measures linked to activity
CL	CRS1	No measures linked to decision package
CL	EHR1	No measures linked to activity
CL	EHR1	No measures linked to decision package
CL	FCCA	No measures linked to activity
CL	FCCA	No measures linked to decision package
CL	HFCS	No measures linked to activity
CL	HFCS	No measures linked to decision package
CL	PB	No measures linked to activity
CL	PB	No measures linked to decision package
CL	SEWG	No measures linked to activity
CL	SEWG	No measures linked to decision package
CL	SWM	No measures linked to activity
CL	SWM	No measures linked to decision package
CL	SWST	No measures linked to activity
CL	SWST	No measures linked to decision package
CL	WAST	No measures linked to activity
CL	WAST	No measures linked to decision package
CL	WTEF	No measures linked to activity
CL	WTEF	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FB	No measures linked to activity
ML	FB	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FF	No measures linked to activity
ML	FF	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DA	No measures linked to activity
PL	DA	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DB	No measures linked to activity
PL	DB	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DC	No measures linked to activity
PL	DC	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DD	No measures linked to activity
PL	DD	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DE	No measures linked to activity
PL	DE	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A002 Administration

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FB	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FF	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DA	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DB	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DD	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DE	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A003 Implementing Integrated Solutions to Protect Instream Resources

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FF	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A005 Clean up the Most Contaminated Sites First (Upland and Aquatic)

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DB	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A006 Clean Up Polluted Waters

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A007 Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A008 Control Stormwater Pollution

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A009 Eliminate Waste and Promote Material Reuse

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A010 Prevent and Pick Up Litter

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A011 Ensure Dam Safety

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A012 Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A013 Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A014 Restore the Air, Soil, and Water Contaminated from Past Activities at Hanford

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A015 Clean Up and Remove Large, Complex, Contaminated Facilities throughout Hanford

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A016 Treat and Dispose of Hanford's High-Level Radioactive Tank Waste

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A017 Ensure Safe Tank Operations, Storage of Tank Wastes, & Closure of the Waste Storage Tanks

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A018 Ensure the Safe Management of Radioactive Mixed Waste at Hanford

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A019 Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Informat

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package
PL DC — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A020 Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A021 A021 Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management, Pollution Prevention, and Compliance wit

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A023 Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A024 Manage Water Rights

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A025 Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A026 Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A027 Monitor the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A028 Improve Environmental Compliance at State's Largest Industrial Facilities

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A030 Prepare for Aggressive Response to Oil and Hazardous Material Incidents

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A031 A031 Remediate Hazardous Waste Pollution and Restore Contaminated Sites to Productive Us

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A032 Prevent Point Source Water Pollution

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A033 Prevent Oil Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A034 Prevent Unhealthy Air and Violations of Air Quality Standards

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A035 Promote Compliance with Water Laws

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package
ML FF — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A036 Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A037 Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Construction Projects

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A038 Protect, Restore, and Manage Wetlands

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A040 Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A041 Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A042 Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A043 Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A044 Provide Water Resources Data and Information

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A045 Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources

ML 9Z — No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A047 Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package
ML	FB	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A048 Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A049 Reduce Nonpoint-Source Water Pollution

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A052 Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste and the Use of Toxic Substances through Technica

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A053 Regulate Well Construction

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package
PL	DD	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A054 Rapidly Respond to and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

Activity: A055 Restore Public Natural Resources Damaged by Oil Spills

ML	9Z	No measures linked to decision package

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

2027-29 ACTIVITY INVENTORY INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
9/5/2026

			Bien	FY28			FY29			Bien
Act. #	Prog	Activity Title	% Allocation Received	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Total Allocated
A002	Admin	Administration	10.51%	1,526,799	5,934,490	7,461,289	1,527,044	5,933,991	7,461,035	14,922,324
A003	WR	Implementing Integrated Solutions to Protect Instream Resources	1.74%	207,641	1,028,064	1,235,705	213,668	1,027,977	1,241,645	2,477,350
A005	TCP	Clean up the Most Contaminated Sites First (Upland and Aquatic)	8.89%	903,396	5,405,923	6,309,319	903,396	5,405,468	6,308,864	12,618,183
A006	WQ	Clean Up Polluted Waters	1.35%	106,152	850,993	957,145	106,152	850,922	957,074	1,914,219
A007	EAP	Conduct Environmental Studies for Pollution Source Identification and Control	3.77%	284,537	2,387,803	2,672,340	292,924	2,387,602	2,680,526	5,352,866
A008	WQ	Control Stormwater Pollution	2.47%	194,338	1,557,952	1,752,290	194,338	1,557,821	1,752,159	3,504,449
A009	SWM	Eliminate Waste and Promote Material Reuse	2.72%	211,445	1,719,165	1,930,610	211,445	1,719,021	1,930,466	3,861,076
A010	SWM	Prevent and Pick Up Litter	1.11%	86,138	700,352	786,490	86,138	700,293	786,431	1,572,921
A011	WR	Ensure Dam Safety	0.60%	71,794	355,462	427,256	73,878	355,432	429,310	856,566
A012	EAP	Ensure Environmental Laboratories Provide Quality Data	0.54%	40,468	339,605	380,073	41,661	339,576	381,237	761,310
A013	SWM	Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste	0.52%	40,631	330,355	370,986	40,631	330,327	370,958	741,944
A014	NWP	Restore the Air, Soil, and Water Contaminated from Past Activities at Hanford	0.82%	112,105	466,461	578,566	115,469	466,421	581,890	1,160,456
A015	NWP	Clean Up and Remove Large, Complex, Contaminated Facilities throughout Hanford	0.68%	93,686	389,818	483,504	96,497	389,786	486,283	969,787
A016	NWP	Treat and Dispose of Hanford's High-level Radioactive Tank Waste	1.64%	225,482	938,207	1,163,689	232,247	938,128	1,170,375	2,334,064
A017	NWP	Ensure Safe Tank Operations, Storage of Tank Wastes, and Closure of the Waste Storage Tanks at Hanford	0.92%	126,080	524,603	650,683	129,862	524,559	654,421	1,305,104
A018	NWP	Ensure the Safe Management of Radioactive Mixed Waste at Hanford	1.16%	159,743	664,673	824,416	164,535	664,618	829,153	1,653,569
A019	HWTR	Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information	1.04%	81,395	656,745	738,140	81,395	656,690	738,085	1,476,225
A020	EAP	Improve Quality of Data Used for Environmental Decision Making	0.19%	14,487	121,570	136,057	14,914	121,560	136,474	272,531
A021	HWTR	Increase Safe Hazardous Waste Management and Dangerous Waste Regulatory Compliance	2.34%	183,425	1,479,989	1,663,414	183,425	1,479,864	1,663,289	3,326,703
A023	TCP	Manage Underground Storage Tanks to Minimize Releases	1.08%	109,529	655,424	764,953	109,529	655,368	764,897	1,529,850
A024	WR	Manage Water Rights	2.71%	322,938	1,598,916	1,921,854	332,312	1,598,782	1,931,094	3,852,948
A025	AQ	Measure Air Pollution Levels and Emissions	1.04%	170,365	566,889	737,254	173,965	566,841	740,806	1,478,060
A026	EAP	Measure Contaminants in the Environment by Performing Laboratory Analyses	1.28%	96,683	811,351	908,034	99,532	811,283	910,815	1,818,849
A027	EAP	Monitor the Quality of State Waters and Measure Stream Flows Statewide	2.29%	172,738	1,449,596	1,622,334	177,829	1,449,474	1,627,303	3,249,637
A028	SWM	Facilities	1.02%	79,637	647,495	727,132	79,637	647,441	727,078	1,454,210
A030	SPPR	Prepare for Aggressive Response to Oil and Hazardous Material Incidents	1.46%	169,564	866,851	1,036,415	169,564	866,778	1,036,342	2,072,757
A031	HWTR	Remediate Hazardous Waste Pollution and Restore Contaminated Sites to Productive Use	0.65%	50,933	410,961	461,894	50,933	410,927	461,860	923,754
A032	WQ	Prevent Point Source Water Pollution	6.13%	482,959	3,871,756	4,354,715	482,959	3,871,430	4,354,389	8,709,104
A033	SPPR	Prevent Oil Spills from Vessels and Oil Handling Facilities	1.09%	126,139	644,852	770,991	126,139	644,798	770,937	1,541,928
A034	AQ	Prevent Unhealthy Air and Violations of Air Quality Standards	1.74%	285,133	948,778	1,233,911	291,157	948,699	1,239,856	2,473,767
A035	WR	Promote Compliance with Water Laws	1.30%	155,064	767,744	922,808	159,565	767,680	927,245	1,850,053
A036	SEA	Protect and Manage Shorelines in Partnership with Local Governments	2.94%	233,782	1,848,664	2,082,446	240,452	1,848,509	2,088,961	4,171,407
A037	SEA	Protect Water Quality by Reviewing and Conditioning Construction Projects	0.85%	67,344	532,532	599,876	69,265	532,487	601,752	1,201,628
A038	SEA	Protect, Restore, and Manage Wetlands	2.08%	165,769	1,310,847	1,476,616	170,499	1,310,737	1,481,236	2,957,852
A040	SEA	Provide Technical and Financial Assistance to Local Governments to Reduce Flood Hazards	0.39%	30,748	243,141	273,889	31,625	243,121	274,746	548,635
A041	SEA	Provide Technical Assistance on State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) Review	0.94%	75,198	594,638	669,836	77,343	594,588	671,931	1,341,767
A042	SEA	Provide Technical Training, Education, and Research through Padilla Bay Estuarine Reserve	0.98%	77,704	614,460	692,164	79,922	614,408	694,330	1,386,494

2027-29 ACTIVITY INVENTORY INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
9/5/2026

			Bien	FY28			FY29			Bien
Act. #	Prog	Activity Title	% Allocation Received	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Program Admin	Agency Overhead	Total Indirect	Total Allocated
A043	WQ	Provide Water Quality Financial Assistance	3.09%	242,963	1,947,771	2,190,734	242,963	1,947,607	2,190,570	4,381,304
A044	WR	Provide Water Resources Data and Information	1.46%	174,013	861,565	1,035,578	179,064	861,492	1,040,556	2,076,134
A045	AQ	Reduce Air Pollution from Industrial and Commercial Sources	1.13%	185,455	617,102	802,557	189,374	617,050	806,424	1,608,981
A047	AQ	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Motor Vehicle Emissions	0.40%	65,922	219,355	285,277	67,315	219,337	286,652	571,929
A048	AQ	Reduce Health and Environmental Threats from Smoke	0.80%	130,256	433,425	563,681	133,008	433,389	566,397	1,130,078
A049	WQ	Reduce Nonpoint Source Water Pollution	2.00%	157,745	1,264,597	1,422,342	157,745	1,264,491	1,422,236	2,844,578
A052	HWTR	Reduce the Generation of Hazardous Waste and the Use of Toxic Substances through Technical Assistance	1.03%	80,740	651,459	732,199	80,740	651,404	732,144	1,464,343
A053	WR	Regulate Well Construction	0.30%	36,297	179,713	216,010	37,351	179,698	217,049	433,059
A054	SPPR	Rapidly Respond to and Clean Up Oil and Hazardous Material Spills	2.15%	249,952	1,277,812	1,527,764	249,952	1,277,704	1,527,656	3,055,420
A055	SPPR	Restore Public Natural Resources Damaged by Oil Spills	0.13%	15,509	79,285	94,794	15,509	79,278	94,787	189,581
A056	SEA	Restore Watersheds by Supporting Community-Based Projects with the WCC	2.71%	215,400	1,703,308	1,918,708	221,546	1,703,165	1,924,711	3,843,419
A057	TCP	Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites	1.17%	118,583	709,602	828,185	118,583	709,542	828,125	1,656,310
A063	ADMIN, AQ, CPR	Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation	7.61%	1,019,647	4,376,537	5,396,184	1,039,073	4,376,170	5,415,243	10,811,427
A064	SWM	Manage Solid Waste Safely	1.10%	85,488	695,066	780,554	85,488	695,008	780,496	1,561,050
A065	HWTR	Prevent the Use of Toxic Chemicals in Products and Promote Safer Alternatives	1.93%	151,162	1,219,669	1,370,831	151,162	1,219,567	1,370,729	2,741,560
		Total	**100.00%**	**10,471,101**	**60,473,391**	**70,944,492**	**10,600,719**	**60,468,309**	**71,069,028**	**142,013,520**

Allocation Method Description

Under OFM definitions, "administrative" costs are made up of two components, indirect costs and overhead costs.

1. "Indirect" costs, the subject of this table, are costs that tend to vary with activity level or size. These costs are assigned to activities and are included in the cost of each activity. For Ecology, these include program administration costs, and agency level cost allocated costs. Program administration costs are incurred within the environmental programs and are assigned to the activities within each program based on FTEs. Agency level cost allocated costs are allocated to environmental programs according to various allocation bases (e.g. facility costs are allocated based on square footage) and then assigned to activities within each program based on FTEs.
2. "Overhead" costs are costs that usually support the entire organization, and tend to be relatively fixed and not readily affected by fluctuations in activity levels. These costs are not assigned to activities. They make up the one "administration" activity. In Ecology these costs are in program A00.

Tab B Recommendation Summary 65

1. Recommendation Summary 2027-29 Operating Budget 67

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Dollars in Thousands

ABS024 Recommendation Summary
Department of Ecology
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial

	Average Annual FTEs	General Fund State	Other Funds	Total Funds
CB T0PL Current Biennium Base	2,288.6	66,200	1,068,212	1,134,412
2025-27 Current Biennium Total	**2,288.6**	**66,200**	**1,068,212**	**1,134,412**
Total Carry Forward Level	**2,288.2**	**69,010**	**996,514**	**1,065,524**
Percent Change from Current Biennium	.0%	4.2%	(6.7)%	(6.1)%
Maintenance – Other Changes				
ML FA Public Participation Grants	0.0	0	462	462
ML FB Zero Emission School Bus Program	1.2	0	32,000	32,000
ML FC Hanford Site Technical Correction	0.0	0	1,978	1,978
ML FE 2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits	0.0	0	579	579
ML FF 2027-29 Cost Savings Options	(10.1)	(4,703)	(2,042)	(6,745)
Maintenance – Other Total	**(8.9)**	**(4,703)**	**32,977**	**28,274**
Total Maintenance Level	**2,279.3**	**64,307**	**1,029,491**	**1,093,798**
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(.4)%	(2.9)%	(3.6)%	(3.6)%
Policy – Other Changes				
PL DA Landfill Methane Fees Exp Authority	1.2	0	400	400
PL DB Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program	1.2	0	442	442
PL DC Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees	2.0	0	677	677
PL DD Well Construction and Licensing	0.0	(1,454)	1,454	0
PL DE Achieving Statutory Decarbonization	2.9	0	2,836	2,836
PL RA New or Increased Fee Requests	0.0	0	0	0
Policy – Other Total	**7.3**	**(1,454)**	**5,809**	**4,355**
Subtotal - Policy Level Changes	**7.3**	**(1,454)**	**5,809**	**4,355**
2027-29 Total Policy Level	**2,286.6**	**62,853**	**1,035,300**	**1,098,153**
Percent Change from Current Biennium	(.1)%	(5.1)%	(3.1)%	(3.2)%

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab C Decision Packages 69

1. Operating Budget Request Summary (Spreadsheet)..... 71
2. OFM Decision Package Summary Report..... 73
3. Decision Package Prioritization 75

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Operating

9/14/2026 $ in thousands - Biennialized FTEs		2027-29 Biennium Operating Budget Request 9/14/2026					
		FTE	GF-State	MTCA [2]	CCA [3]	Other	Total
2027-29 Carryforward Level Base Budget		**2,288.2**	**69,010**	**370,753**	**104,507**	**521,254**	**1,065,524**
Maintenance Level Changes							
1	Hanford Site Technical Correction	-				1,978	**1,978**
2	WCC Member Wages & Benefits	-		232		347	**579**
3	Public Participation Grants	-		462			**462**
4	Cost Savings Options	(10.1)	(4,703)	(1,712)		(330)	**(6,745)**
Policy Level Changes							
Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts [1]							
5	Achieving Statutory Decarbonization	2.9			625	2,211	**2,836**
6	Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority	1.2				400	**400**
Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution [1]							
7	Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees	2.0				677	**677**
8	Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program	1.2		(156)		598	**442**
Protect and Manage Our State's Waters [1]							
9	Well Construction and Licensing	-	(1,454)			1,454	**-**
Total Changes		**(3.0)**	**(6,157)**	**(1,174)**	**625**	**7,335**	**629**
Total Operating Budget		**2,285.2**	**62,853**	**369,579**	**105,132**	**528,589**	**1,066,153**

Transportation

9/14/2026 $ in thousands		2027-29 Biennium Transportation Budget Request 9/14/2026					
		FTE	SBCA [2]	MTCA [3]	CCA [4]	Other	Total
Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts [1]							
1	Zero Emission School Bus Program (re-appropriation)	1.2		9,600	22,400		**32,000**
Total Transportation Budget		**1.2**	**-**	**9,600**	**22,400**	**-**	**32,000**

Notes:

[1] Goal in the Department of Ecology's 2025-30 Strategic Plan (https://ecology.wa.gov/about-us/who-we-are/strategic-plan/2025-30-strategic-plan).

[2] Model Toxics Control Operating Account (23P-1, 23P-7), Model Toxics Control Stormwater Account (23R-1).

[2] Climate Commitment Act Operating Account (30P), Climate Commitment Act Transportation Account (26A).

To ask for ADA accommodation, email chrystal.witham@ecy.wa.gov, call 564-200-3541, or 711 (relay service), or 877-833-6341 (TTY). Visit ecology.wa.gov/ADA for more information.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Dollars in Thousands

PL-DE	Achieving Statutory Decarbonization
PL-DD	Well Construction and Licensing
PL-DC	Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees
PL-DA	Landfill Methane Fees Exp Authority
PL-DB	Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program
PL-RA	New or Increased Fee Requests

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Policy Level Decision Package Prioritization

All Policy Items Prioritized

	Code	Name
AGENCY	461	Department of Ecology

			2027-29 Biennium						2029-31 Biennium					
			FY 2028			FY 2029			FY 2030			FY 2031		
Priority	DP Code	DP Title	NGFS	Other	Total	NGFS	Other	Total	NGFS	Other	Total	NGFS	Other	Total
1	DE	Achieving Statutory Decarbonization		1,078	1,078		1,758	1,758		1,758	1,758		1,758	1,758
2	DD	Well Construction and Licensing	(740)	740	0	(714)	714	0	(740)	740	0	(714)	714	0
3	DC	Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees		167	167		510	510		571	571		0	0
4	DA	Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority		200	200		200	200		200	200		200	200
5	DB	Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program		221	221		221	221		221	221		221	221
			(740)	**2,406**	**1,666**	**(714)**	**3,403**	**2,689**	**(740)**	**3,490**	**2,750**	**(714)**	**2,893**	**2,179**

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab C-1 Maintenance Level 77

1. ML FC Hanford Site Technical Correction 79
2. ML FE WCC Member Wages & Benefits 93
3. ML FA Public Participation Grants 115
4. ML FF 2027-29 Cost Savings Options 129
5. ML FB Zero Emissions School Bus Program 143
6. Other Planned OFM ML Adjustments 157

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Department of Ecology

2027-29 Regular Budget Session

Maintenance Level - FC - Hanford Site Technical Correction

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Radioactive Mixed Waste Account appropriation for the Hanford Site is currently misaligned with the available staffing resources in Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program. Our FTE authority exceeds the funding level available, limiting Ecology's ability to hire the staff needed to oversee and support decision-making for the U.S. Department of Energy's cleanup of the Hanford site. To meet our legal obligations and maintain progress on the Hanford cleanup mission, the appropriation needs to be realigned with the current authorized FTE levels to allow Ecology to hire the staff required to provide essential permitting support and oversight. (Radioactive Mixed Waste Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 20R - 1	$989	$989	**$1,978**	$989	$989	**$1,978**
Total Expenditures	**$989**	**$989**	**$1,978**	**$989**	**$989**	**$1,978**
Revenue						
20R - 0294	$989	$989	**$1,978**	$989	$989	**$1,978**
Total Revenue	**$989**	**$989**	**$1,978**	**$989**	**$989**	**$1,978**

Decision Package Description

Background:

Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program (NWP) is a unique state program. In 1986, it was developed and designed to ensure sound management of radioactive and hazardous waste (mixed waste) in Washington, primarily overseeing cleanup efforts at the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE) Hanford Site.

In 1986, Ecology, USDOE, and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) had to determine how to apply existing regulations to the Hanford site and bring it into compliance with federal and state environmental laws.

Rather than work with these issues through lengthy lawsuits, Ecology, USDOE, and EPA reached a Tri-Party Agreement (TPA) in 1989 to manage cleanup. The TPA provides a schedule with milestones for USDOE to complete the cleanup at Hanford. It also defines the overlapping regulatory authorities that Ecology and EPA have over cleanup.

The Hanford Site is owned by USDOE and requires cleanup of several contaminates, including mixed waste. The mixed waste cleanup is funded by the Radioactive Mixed Waste Account (RMWA). Mixed waste management activities are regulated through the TPA, state environmental regulations for waste, air and water management, and Chapter 70A.300 RCW – Mixed Waste Management. Actual cleanup activities are conducted by USDOE.

The RMWA was established in fiscal year 2014 and is supported by Mixed Waste Fees paid by USDOE. Spending authority from the RMWA has been misaligned with the FTE authority Ecology has, since fiscal year 2016. Ecology has been able to work through the misalignment by holding about six vacancies over the years due to the Hanford Site cleanup delays related to USDOE's budget and other outside factors.

However, there has been significant progress made recently by USDOE to meet their cleanup obligations under the TPA, and Ecology needs to match that effort through our ability to make timely cleanup and permitting decisions. Effective fiscal year 2028, Ecology will need the spending authority required to be fully staffed so that we can provide timely permitting support and cleanup decision-making to avoid permits holding up USDOE's cleanup work.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?

See Attachment A – Hanford Site Technical Funding Correction.

Problem/Opportunity:

Ecology's role and responsibilities are funded through the RMWA. This account is supported by a Mixed Waste Fee paid by USDOE (federal

funding). However, the RMWA has a misalignment of resources: the cost to support our authorized FTE level exceeds our appropriation level at carryforward level for 2027-29 by $989,000. This persistent gap has forced Ecology to maintain a vacancy rate within the RMWA to balance its budget.

Historically, Hanford Site cleanup has been delayed due to lack of a compliant federal budget and other outside influences. Recently, USDOE has made significant progress to meet their cleanup obligations under the TPA, and Ecology needs to match that effort through our ability to make timely cleanup and permit decisions. Effective fiscal year 2028, Ecology will need to be fully staffed to provide timely permitting support and cleanup decision making to avoid permits holding up USDOE's cleanup work. Therefore, the RMWA needs the FTE authority to align with the appropriation amount. Without realigning the resources, the lack of sufficient funds in the RMWA will cause delays and obstacles to the Hanford Site cleanup, which requires Ecology to issue timely permits and cleanup decisions.

Proposed Solution:

Ecology requests an increase in the RMWA expenditure authority to align base funding with the existing FTE authority in the 2027-29 biennium and ongoing. No new FTEs are needed or requested. As noted above, RMWA collects an annual Mixed Waste Fee from USDOE to cover Ecology's expenses. This realignment will not affect the current Washington State financial situation. Realigning RMWA's FTE and appropriation amount will allow Ecology the opportunity to immediately fully staff the program, properly balance the budget by fiscal year, and seamlessly provide support to the Handford Site cleanup.

Impacts on Population Served:

Those most vulnerable to harmful impacts from Hanford are overburdened and underserved communities, including low-income populations, Tribes, and indigenous people. Delayed permits or cleanup decisions from Ecology could impact USDOE's ability to meet cleanup milestones, and consistent underfunding at Hanford exposes these communities to greater environmental and health risks over time. Funding this budget request will ensure Ecology makes timely cleanup and permitting decisions to avoid further delays in USDOE cleanup efforts for the complex cleanup work needed to protect surrounding communities, including those most at risk.

Alternatives Explored:

No other funding options are available to explore. Chapter 70A.300 RCW – Mixed Waste Management has specifically designated the RMWA and Mixed Waste Fee to cover all of Ecology's duties regarding mixed waste management within the Tri-Party Agreement.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

Not realigning RMWA appropriation to the current FTE authority would diminish Ecology's ability hire a full staffing level, which in turn would risk timely cleanup and permit decisions for USDOE to meet their cleanup obligations. This would cause delays that could adversely impact preventing and reducing further environmental impacts occurring at the Hanford Site over time. This could jeopardize the health of soil, groundwater, and air impacting the communities that border the Hanford Site.

Also, without realigning the appropriation, Ecology would not have the full and necessary resources to support the planning, permitting, and post construction workload required by the TPA, Chapter 173-303 WAC, and Chapter 70A.300 RCW. If sufficient funding is not available, there could be delays in Ecology decisions regarding permitting and cleanup activities are needed for USDOE to continue making progress.

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Mixed Waste Management Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

FY 2028: $14,379,000
FY 2029: $14,321,000

3. Proposed Rate:

FY 2028: $15,367,717
FY 2029: $15,309,717

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

FY 2028: $988,717
FY 2029: $988,717

5. Expected Implementation Date: 7/1/2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

FY 2028: $988,717
FY 2029: $988,717

7. Justification: The Mixed Waste Fee is driven by workload analysis and level of effort required to carry out the responsibilities of the Nuclear Waste Program. Increased workload drives an equal offset of expenditures and revenue through increased billings to permitted entities.

8. Changes in Who Pays: N/A

9. Changes in Methodology: N/A

10. RecSum Code: FC

11. Alternatives: The alternative to this request is funding from General Fund – State. This is not preferred as there is an established fund source directly correlated to the work being performed.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request does not expand the work of Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program. It only provides the spending authority needed in the RMWA so that the program can fill all of the FTEs they have authority for, to meet cleanup deliverables beginning in fiscal year 2028.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

By realigning the appropriation authority with the current FTE authority, the following classification of positions will be fully funded and can be staffed to meet our obligations starting in fiscal year 2028. A fully funded workforce will support progress gains being made in the tank waste retrieval and treatment mission, closure of facilities that no longer support the cleanup mission, and cleaning up waste sites.

- 2.0 FTEs Environmental Specialist 3: Supports permit application and cleanup decision reviews for the Waste Management and Tank Waste Treatment Projects. Facilities continue to be updated and modified to meet the cleanup mission for storage, treatment, and disposal of waste on and off the Hanford Site.
- 1.0 FTE Environmental Specialist 4: Supports permit application and cleanup decision reviews for the Facility Transition Project. Facilities on and off the Hanford Site and cleanup decisions on the Hanford Site continue to be updated and modified to meet the cleanup mission for storage, treatment, and disposal of waste.
- 2.0 FTEs Environmental Specialist 5: Provides subject matter expertise and leads permitting and cleanup decision making within the Environmental Restoration and Permit Coordination Projects. This work can include support for dangerous waste permitting and groundwater monitoring permitting (water quality) throughout the Hanford Site.
- 1.0 FTE Hydrogeologist 4: Serves as the technical expert in reviews of groundwater and vadose zone cleanup and monitoring, modeling of contaminant fate, and transport of contaminants in the subsurface environment from numerous releases across the Hanford Site.

The FTE authority for these positions already exists. The increased RMWA appropriation will receive matching revenue for this account. Revenue is collected through assessment of an annual Mixed Waste Fee paid by USDOE.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
A	Salaries and Wages	557,321	557,321	557,321	557,321	557,321	557,321
B	Employee Benefits	174,440	174,440	174,440	174,440	174,440	174,440
E	Goods and Services	33,186	33,186	33,186	33,186	33,186	33,186
G	Travel	11,586	11,586	11,586	11,586	11,586	11,586
J	Capital Outlays	3,630	3,630	3,630	3,630	3,630	3,630
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	208,554	208,554	208,554	208,554	208,554	208,554
	Total Objects	**988,717**	**988,717**	**988,717**	**988,717**	**988,717**	**988,717**

Staffing Job Class	Salary	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
Total FTEs		**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	FY2029
FTE (xx direct FTE)	83.0	83.0
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$12,996,000	$12,926,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)		
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$12,996,000	$12,926,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1 - Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability.

This request will match Ecology's spending authority to our FTE authority to improve our ability to adapt to fluctuating workloads, operate efficiently at full capacity, and be financially secure.

Goal 3 – Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution
Objective 3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will support Ecology's role and responsibility in the TPA to ensure USDOE conducts an environmentally protective cleanup of the state's largest superfund/cleanup site.

Goal 4 - Protect and manage our state's waters
Objective 4.2 Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters

This request will allow Ecology to hire positions that support groundwater and vadose zone cleanup that protects the Columbia River from contamination.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priority:
Climate and Environmental – This request will ensure proper staff are available to provide necessary oversight and regulation required by Ecology at the Hanford Site. Without this request, Ecology would be at risk of delays in permitting and cleanup decisions.

Performance Outcomes:

The cleanup at the Hanford Site is an effort among Ecology, USDOE, and EPA. USDOE performs the actual cleanup, and Ecology and EPA approve permits and approve cleanup decisions while overseeing the cleanup activities. USDOE's cleanup activities have been slowed down due to lack of a federal compliant budget and other outside influences. Recently, USDOE has made significant progress to meet their cleanup obligations under the TPA, and Ecology needs to match that effort through our ability to make timely cleanup and permitting decisions.

Effective fiscal year 2028 and ongoing, Ecology needs to be fully staffed to provide timely permitting support and cleanup decision-making to avoid further cleanup delays. Continued delays would 1) increase risks of further environmental contamination to soil, groundwater, and air and add risk to communities that border Hanford Site; and 2) jeopardize Ecology's ability to fulfill its obligations under the TPA, state environmental regulations, and state law.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The Tribes have continually expressed significant interest in the oversight and thorough cleanup of contaminated areas that once provided hunting, gathering and cultural resources for multiple sovereign Tribes and Nations.

Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program conducts routine engagement with the Tribes through recurring Hanford Advisory Board meetings. Upon request, Ecology engages with the Tribes as needed on topics identified around key cleanup decisions. We also have monthly meetings with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and Nez Perce Tribes that have treaty rights to the Hanford Site. We provide routine permitting updates at those meetings, status key cleanup decision documents, and any specific oversight topics as requested by the Tribal Nations.

Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program also regularly conducts community outreach and engagement efforts to those who have been or may be affected by the Hanford Site and cleanup work. These communities are highly impacted by the timely cleanup of Hanford Site contaminants. Cleanup actions have been and will continue to be shared extensively with communities impacted by Hanford contamination. Ecology ensures these outreach and engagement activities are designed to be accessible, linguistically appropriate, and aim to reach and involve as many members of the community as possible.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

As far as we can reasonably foresee, this request will not make decisions that are anticipated to result in negative health impacts and environmental burdens or harm. The legacy of environmental contamination from Hanford and ongoing environmental and public health risks have regional effects on economic and community wellbeing. These effects disproportionately impact people who are already overburdened by environmental and health concerns. This population faces numerous barriers to accessing government information or services, such as information about the Hanford Site, potential health risks, and public involvement opportunities.

If funded, this request will result in additional capacity to oversee USDOE's obligation to conduct an environmentally protective cleanup of the Hanford Site by allowing the state the ability to issue necessary permits and cleanup decisions in a timely manner.

Target Communities and Populations:

Those most vulnerable to harmful impacts from Hanford are overburdened and underserved communities, including low-income populations, Tribes, and indigenous people. Missed cleanup milestones and consistent underfunding at Hanford expose these communities to greater environmental and health risks. Fulfilling this budget request will ensure Washington State makes timely cleanup and permitting decisions to avoid further delays in cleanup and ensure we protect surrounding communities, including those most at risk.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

N/A

Stakeholder Impacts:

This request has been presented to USDOE. USDOE understands the need for realignment between our FTE authority and the appropriation. They should not see any additional cost based on the current fee assessment established in Chapter 173-328 WAC.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Hanford Site Technical Correction-Attachment A.xlsx
Hanford Site Technical Correction-HEAL Act.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$557	$557	**$1,114**	$557	$557	**$1,114**
Obj. B	$174	$174	**$348**	$174	$174	**$348**
Obj. E	$33	$33	**$66**	$33	$33	**$66**
Obj. G	$12	$12	**$24**	$12	$12	**$24**
Obj. J	$4	$4	**$8**	$4	$4	**$8**
Obj. T	$209	$209	**$418**	$209	$209	**$418**

Agency Contact Information

Julie Pettit
(509) 539-1996
julp461@ECY.WA.GOV

ATTACHMENT A - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

As of August 2026

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25 (2024 Suppl)	Hanford Dangerous Waste Permit	In 2015, Department of Energy took over the management of the Hanford dangerous waste permit. Funding is provided for two staff positions to help meet the September 2026 deadline for the permit's re-issuance and to manage new responsibilities in 2024 related to the Perma-Fix Northwest dangerous waste permit and Hanford air operating permit.	20R	Custom	380,000
2025-27	Hanford Cleanup Support	Expenditure authority is provided for increased compliance work at the Hanford Site. In 2024, the U.S. Department of Energy (USDOE), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and ECY signed a new settlement agreement for cleaning up radioactive and chemical waste from underground tanks at the Hanford Site.	20R	Ongoing	1,077,000
2025-27	Hanford Fund Shift	Expenditure authority is shifted from General Fund-Federal to the dedicated federally-funded Radioactive Mixed Waste account, to align changes in workload with funding sources.	20R	Ongoing	826,000
2025-27	Hanford Unit Closure & Construction	Expenditure authority is provided for oversight and increased workload associated with several facility closures and new facility construction, consistent with a recent consent order at the Hanford Site.	20R	Ongoing	418,000

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population

resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ Yes ☒ No

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ Yes ☐ No

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

   Hanford Site is one of the largest cleanup sites in the nation. During the plutonium weapon production years and leading into the cleanup mission, the site has released radioactive and hazardous waste contaminants into the soil, air, groundwater, and the Columbia River, and will continue to do so until cleanup is completed.

   Many of the communities surrounding Hanford Site remain at risk due to the releases that occurred and the aging facilities on the Hanford Site. Those most vulnerable to harmful impacts from potential environmental and health threats created by Hanford waste are Tribal and indigenous people, overburdened communities, and low-income populations.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   The Tri-Party Agreement, Article III, Purpose, states the following: "Ensure that the environmental impacts associated with past and present activities at the Hanford Site are thoroughly investigated and appropriate response action taken as necessary to protect the public health, welfare and the environment."

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1 - Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability.

This request will match Ecology's spending authority to our FTE authority to improve our ability to adapt to fluctuating workloads, operate efficiently at full capacity, and be financially secure.

Goal 3 – Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.
Objective 3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will support Ecology's role and responsibility in the TPA to ensure USDOE conducts an environmentally protective cleanup of the state's largest superfund/cleanup site.

Goal 4 - Protect and manage our state's waters
Objective 4.2 Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters

This request will allow Ecology to hire positions that support groundwater and vadose zone cleanup that protects the Columbia River from contamination.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

The Tribes have continually expressed significant interest in the oversight and thorough cleanup of contaminated areas that once provided hunting, gathering and cultural resources for multiple sovereign Tribes and Nations. Ecology's Nuclear Waste Program conducts routine engagement with the Tribes through recurring Hanford Advisory Board meetings. Upon request, Ecology engages with the Tribes as needed on topics identified around key cleanup decisions. We also have monthly meetings with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and Nez Perce Tribes that have treaty rights to the Hanford Site. We provide routine permitting updates at those meetings, status key cleanup decision documents, and any specific oversight topics as requested by the Tribal Nations.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   The Tribes have continually expressed significant interest in the oversight and thorough cleanup of contaminated areas that once provided hunting, gathering and cultural resources for multiple sovereign Tribes and Nations. As noted above, Ecology conducts routine engagement with the Tribes through recurring Hanford Advisory Board meetings. Upon request, Ecology engages with the Tribes as needed on topics identified around key cleanup decisions. We also have monthly meetings with the Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and Nez Perce Tribes that have treaty rights to the Hanford Site. We provide routine permitting updates at those meetings, status key cleanup decision documents, and any specific oversight topics as requested by the Tribal Nations.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   Not applicable.

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) is a statewide career program for unemployed or underemployed young adults and military veterans that leverages AmeriCorps funds to complete environmental restoration and recreational enhancement projects with partner organizations. This request will adjust WCC member living allowances to meet state minimum wage, helping WCC stay competitive and accessible to eligible member participants. Ecology requires state funding to maintain 389 WCC members and staff supporting a cost share model where partners provide 75% and Ecology provides a 25% match through a mix of AmeriCorps federal grant funds and state appropriation. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account, General Fund-Federal, General Fund-Private/Local)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 2	$15	$47	**$62**	$47	$47	**$94**
Fund 001 - 7	$71	$214	**$285**	$214	$214	**$428**
Fund 23P - 1	$58	$174	**$232**	$174	$174	**$348**
Total Expenditures	**$144**	**$435**	**$579**	**$435**	**$435**	**$870**
Revenue						
001 - 0315	$15	$47	**$62**	$47	$47	**$94**
001 - 0597	$71	$214	**$285**	$214	$214	**$428**
Total Revenue	**$86**	**$261**	**$347**	**$261**	**$261**	**$522**

Decision Package Description

Background:
The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) was established in 1981 as a state program to provide opportunities for young adults ages 18 to 25 and military veterans to engage in conservation service in Washington State (RCW 43.220.020). This program, administered in partnership with the Departments of Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife, creates leaders in environmental and disaster response services through robust training, community involvement, field skill development, hands-on experience, and mentoring. There are 389 WCC members and staff across the state who restore critical habitat, improve trails, reduce wildfire hazards, control erosion, and respond to local and national disasters. WCC members may be part of a five-person field crew or become an intern working directly with natural resource professionals through the Individual Placement program.

WCC leverages AmeriCorps federal funding, however, it is not a program under the federal AmeriCorps, which was not established until 1993.

WCC Cost-Share Model
WCC completes projects in partnership with nearly 110 local and Tribal governments, nonprofit entities, and state and federal agencies (see Attachment A Tab 1 for a list of 2025-27 partner organizations). These partners pay 75% of WCC's crew and intern costs. The remaining 25% cost-share is funded by a combination of state appropriation and our federal AmeriCorps grant. In addition to WCC field crews, there are 20 AmeriCorps Individual Placement interns funded on a 75/25 basis.

The 25% cost-share is different than the percentage of state funding that supports total WCC costs. State appropriation funds 100% of nine FTEs. These staff are not part of the 75/25 cost-share model. Instead, these FTEs provide management and operational support to all 315 WCC members (315 members + 65 field staff + 9 management/operations staff = 389 total). In addition, federal funds support 100% of costs related to national disaster response deployments.

The 75/25 cost-share model is not required, but it is the best approach for funding WCC in a marketplace of other AmeriCorps programs offering similar cost-share structures. To determine the appropriate cost-share level, WCC reviewed federal funding opportunities for environmental restoration and recreational enhancement activities – and most require a minimum 25% cost-share. In addition, WCC performs an annual review of the amount of time crews dedicate to direct service. After accounting for crew time not in direct service (e.g., holidays, member recruitment, hiring, orientation, training, and evaluation), the partner organization receives about 75% of a crew member's available time. Similar programs across the country replicate this cost-share model.

Since the 2019-21 biennium, Ecology has submitted a budget request and received additional state appropriation to cover increasing WCC costs, including minimum wage increases and corresponding benefit cost changes. This additional funding has afforded Ecology the opportunity to maintain the 75/25 cost-share model through the current biennium. As costs related to minimum wage and benefits continue to increase, Ecology requires a maintenance level adjustment for the 202729 biennium to maintain WCC's 389 members and staff and the 75/25 cost-share model.

Beyond the 75/25 cost-share model, WCC also supports five Service Equity Funded crews. Under the Service Equity model, Ecology waives cost-share for partners in overburdened communities that have higher environmental stewardship needs but may face challenges providing matching funds. This request includes the full state cost for the five Service Equity crews.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
Yes
See Attachment B.

Problem/Opportunity:
Living Allowance
WCC currently pays its members a semi-monthly living allowance in exchange for an 11.5-month commitment, a "crew year," to complete environmental and disaster services. A crew year runs from October 1 through September 15. The living allowance is set at a rate equivalent to the projected average state's minimum wage for each crew year. It is distributed accordingly during a WCC member's service term.

Under RCW 49.46.020, the state minimum wage is set at $17.13 per hour for calendar year 2026 and will increase each year based on the U.S. Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). According to the Washington Department of Labor & Industries, the adjusted minimum wage rate for each calendar year is calculated to the nearest cent using the CPI-W, or a successor index, for the 12 months prior to each September 1.

Over the 12-month period ending June 2026, CPI-W with data increased by an average of 3.0% annually. Living allowance calculations are based on a 3.0% annual increase, the best available information at this time (see Attachment A Tab 2 for CPI-W Rates). Based on current available data, the state's minimum wage is expected to increase each year by 3.0% beginning January 1, 2027:

- Increase by $0.51 in calendar year 2027 to $17.64 per hour
- Increase by $0.53 in calendar year 2028 to $18.17 per hour
- Increase by $0.54 in calendar year 2029 to $18.71 per hour

If this request is not funded, and the WCC minimum wage is not increased, it would begin to fall below the state minimum.

Medical Insurance
Under the terms of its federal AmeriCorps grant, Ecology must provide WCC members medical insurance that complies with the federal Affordable Care Act. These costs continue to increase at approximately 9% a year, mirroring national trends.

Providing a competitive living allowance consistent with the state's minimum wage and a competitive benefits package will ensure WCC can continue to support and retain its 315 members, remain in compliance with the requirements of our federal grant funding, and meet our partners' needs.

Proposed Solution:
Living Allowance
Ecology requests state appropriation to increase WCC members' living allowance to align with the upcoming changes to the state's minimum wage and maintain the current cost-share model through the 2027-29 biennium.

WCC crew years run from October 1 through September 15 and align with the federal fiscal year. This maintenance level budget request will cover crew years 2027-2028 (October 1, 2027, through September 15, 2028-29) and 2028-29 (October 1, 2028, through September 15, 2029). Based on projected increases to the state's minimum wage, the WCC semi-monthly living allowance for these crew years will increase as follows:

Crew Year	Semi-Monthly Living Allowance	Avg. Monthly Min. Wage During That Crew Year
2026-2027	$1,478*	$17.75
2027-2028	$1,502	$18.04
2028-2029	$1,547	$18.58

*Previous budget request (2025-27) assumed minimum wage amounts based on higher inflation rates experienced at the time. The base living allowance amounts used in this budget request are based on $1,478 semi-monthly amount assumed, rather than the $1,458 that would be calculated today. This results in a lower request for 2027-29 but accurately reflects the funding level that was provided in the 2025-27 budget request and carryforward level funding for 2027-29.

Ecology's AmeriCorps grant is reimbursed on a flat fee-per-member basis tied to enrollment and retention. Funding for these cost adjustments is essential to ensure Ecology can fully enroll and retain its members to make full use of our federal funding opportunities.

These living allowance increases total $638,760 for the 2027-29 biennium, including costs for benefits and administration. Under RCW 43.220.231, Ecology will apply a 5% administrative rate to all WCC costs as part of our partner agreements. Ecology requests a total of $197,712 in state appropriation from the Model Toxics Control Act Operating Account (MTCA Operating) to support 25% of the costs for our regular cost-share crews ($147,016) and 100% of the costs for our Service Equity Funded crews ($50,696). The remaining funding needed for the partner share of the increase is requested in General Fund-Federal ($52,926) and General Fund-Private/Local ($242,577) appropriation. Ecology is not requesting the portion of the increase expected to be funded by interagency agreements (IAAs) with state agency partners, because appropriation for those IAAs is not needed ($145,545).

For more details about the minimum wage and living allowance increases for each crew year, see Attachment A Tab 3: Equitable Living Allowance Calculation and Crosswalk. For a detailed breakdown of the cost increases associated with these living allowance adjustments, see Attachment A Tab 4A: WCC Member Living Allowance and Benefits Impacts and Attachment A Tab 4B: WCC Member Living Allowance and Benefits Impacts (Service Equity Funded).

Medical Insurance

Ecology must provide WCC members medical insurance that complies with the federal Affordable Care Act to qualify for AmeriCorps funding. Medical insurance costs continue to increase at approximately 9% a year, mirroring national trends. For the 2027-29 biennium, these increases total $111,451, including associated administration. Ecology requests a total of $34,497 in state appropriation from MTCA Operating. This includes 25% of the costs needed to support regular cost-share crews ($25,652) and 100% of the costs needed to support Service Equity Funded crews ($8,845).

The remaining funding needed for the partner share of the increase is requested in General Fund-Federal ($9,234) and General Fund-Private/Local ($42,325) appropriation. Ecology is not requesting the portion of the increase expected to be funded by IAAs with state agency partners, because appropriation for those IAAs is not needed ($25,395). For more details on health insurance cost increases, see Attachment A Tab 5A: WCC Health Insurance Impacts and Attachment A Tab 5B: WCC Health Insurance Impacts (Service Equity Funded).

Impacts on Population Served:

WCC Members

WCC members are young adults, age 18 to 25, and military veterans of any age. In addition to the living allowance and training provided by WCC, they earn an AmeriCorps educational award of $7,395. Unemployment rates routinely run two to three times greater for young adults than all other age groups. Military veterans suffer from higher unemployment rates than their civilian counterparts. WCC has demonstrated successful outcomes for these demographics, including recent studies showing links between outdoor service, stress reduction, and personal resilience. Importantly, these studies affirmed the Legislature's "therapeutic and reintegration intent of the Veterans Conservation Corps for veterans involved in the Puget Sound corps" specified in WCC's authorizing legislation (Laws of 2011, ch. 20, sec. 1(7)(b)).

WCC Partner Organizations

The health of the state's ecosystems directly affects the economies, health, and safety of our communities. Washington's natural resources support more than one-third of the state's economy. Improving and protecting at-risk ecosystems is vital to rural jobs and small businesses involved in forestry, farming, fishing, and recreation. Maintaining the 75/25 cost-share model will preserve the diverse portfolio of 110 partner organizations that currently include small nonprofit entities and rural counties and cities that cannot otherwise afford to complete necessary environmental restoration. The WCC provides job and education opportunities for youth and military veterans in these locations and helps meet Ecology's mission to protect Washington's air, land, and water.

Alternatives Explored:

Pass all increasing costs on to partners

Without additional state funding, the WCC could still increase the living allowance for its members but would have to shift those costs to our external partners, which would change the current 75/25 cost-share model. Under this model, partners pay 75% of member costs, and the remainder is supported by state appropriations and our federal AmeriCorps grant.

The 75/25 cost-share model is an eligibility requirement for state and federal grants and contracts that require a minimum 25% match. If WCC were to pass all these increased costs onto its partners, the program would no longer be eligible for state and federal grants requiring a minimum 25% match.

Reduced state support would reduce the pool of organizations that can serve as WCC partners. As WCC's costs rise, small nonprofit entities and governmental organizations from areas of the state with fewer resources would be priced out, limiting WCC's statewide reach and reducing environmental restoration projects in some of the state's most critical areas, such as the San Juan Islands, the Chehalis and Columbia River basins, and the Olympic Peninsula.

This alternative would also reduce WCC's investments in training and capacity for disaster deployments. Partner organizations currently agree to pause their project work (and payment) so members who are part of crews can respond to disasters and participate in training. Partners would be less inclined to support these activities if they had to pay a higher amount for crew members' time.

Reduce WCC crews

In fiscal year 2027, a crew of five members plus one crew supervisor will cost approximately $346,587. The partner share of these costs ($346,587 x 0.75) will be $259,940, with WCC's share at $86,647. WCC's share is funded by a combination of AmeriCorps grant funds ($2,201,437 grant funding / 315 members = $6,989 per member x 5 members per crew = $34,945 per crew) and MTCA Operating funding ($51,702).

WCC could close the $232,209 shortfall in MTCA Operating funding by reducing approximately 2.2 WCC crews ($51,702 MTCA Operating funding x 2.2 crews x 2 years = $230,000 with rounding). However, cutting crews would have a multilayered, cumulative impact on WCC funding.

AmeriCorps funding would be turned away. The AmeriCorps grant is reimbursed based on enrollment and retention. If Ecology eliminates 2.2 crews, then commensurate AmeriCorps funding would be removed from the grant. There are five members on each crew. Therefore, a reduction of 2.2 crews would result in a reduction of 11 crew members (2.2 crews x 5 crew members = 11 crew members). A reduction of 11 crew members would mean a $153,758 reduction in AmeriCorps grant funding for the 2027-29 biennium ($6,989 per member x 11 members x 2 years = $153,758). Because past enrollment and retention strongly influence future AmeriCorps funding decisions, and are often a part of grant scoring criteria, crew reductions could result in funding levels that do not increase again. If retention is reduced, AmeriCorps could view WCC as a less competitive applicant, potentially leading to a permanent loss of AmeriCorps funding.

AmeriCorps also provides educational loan forbearance and a $7,395 education award to each WCC member. This means a loss of 11 crew members would also result in $162,690 in lost educational benefits (11 crew members x $7,395 x 2 years = $162,690). These education awards are used in continuing higher education and, if cut, would translate to a loss of revenue for our state's higher education institutions.

If crews are reduced, partner funding would be turned away. State and federal AmeriCorps funding makes up the 25% share of total crew costs. Without the 25% cost-share, Ecology would have nothing to offer partners who are ready to provide their 75% share. A reduction of 2.2 crews during the 2027-29 biennium would result in $1,143,736 in WCC partner funding having to be turned away ($259,940 partner share per crew x 2.2 crews x 2 years = $1,143,736).

Reducing WCC's size would lead to increased proliferation of invasive species and increased flood hazards from unabated erosion. There would also be less salmon recovery and decreased access to public lands. Job opportunities for young adults and military veterans would decrease, as would services to in-need communities following a disaster.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

Without state funding to maintain the 75/25 cost-share model, WCC would be required to either change its cost-share model, increase our partners' share, or cut crews. The consequences of these alternatives are noted in the Alternatives Explored section.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

In 2011, state legislation folded WCC programs previously housed at the Washington Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Washington State Parks into the Ecology WCC program. The Legislature's intent was to "expand the conservation corps in all areas of the state" and "increase opportunities for meaningful work experience." In the year following that legislation, WCC grew to 65 crews (five members and one supervisor per crew), 27 interns, and 13 staff – a total of 430 people. Since 2013, WCC has maintained a program size of 389 members and staff, with the exception of the 201719 and 201921 biennia when seasonal crews were cut to make up for a funding shortfall and in response to the global pandemic. In the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 crew years, there was a disruption in federal AmeriCorps funding that temporarily resulted in fewer WCC member positions. This funding was restored through litigation. Pending the outcome of the current AmeriCorps grant solicitation, WCC's program size will return to previous levels.

Ecology is requesting state appropriation needed to cover projected increases in the statewide minimum wage and associated benefit and medical insurance costs. This request will not expand Activity A056 because it does not expand or alter the WCC program size and level of service in place since 2013.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

The total increased costs projected for the 2027-29 biennium are $750,211 from all fund sources including IAAs. Ecology requests 25% of the costs to support regular cost-share crews ($172,668) and 100% of the costs to support Service Equity Funded crews ($59,541) for a total of $232,209 from MTCA-Operating to maintain the WCC program at 389 members and staff. In addition, Ecology requests $62,160 in General Fund-Federal and $284,902 in General Fund-Private/Local appropriation for the partner share of federal and private/local costs. The remaining costs of $170,940 are anticipated from IAAs, which will occur in object S-Inter-agency and therefore are not included in this budget request.

Per RCW 43.220.231, a 5% administrative rate is applied to all costs in WCC as part of partner agreements.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
B	Employee Benefits	31,943	83,396	83,396	83,396	83,396	83,396
N	Grants, Benefits, and Client Services	105,073	331,272	331,272	331,272	331,272	331,272
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	6,852	20,735	20,735	20,735	20,735	20,735
	Total Objects	**143,868**	**435,403**	**435,403**	**435,403**	**435,403**	**435,403**

Staffing							
Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
	Total FTEs	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object
Living allowance increases are shown in object N at $105,073 for fiscal year 2028, and $331,272 in fiscal year 2029 and ongoing.

Benefits associated with living allowance increases are calculated at 6.2% of salaries for Social Security and 1.45% of salaries for Medicare. These are $8,038 in fiscal year 2028, and $25,342 in fiscal year 2029, and ongoing. Member health insurance increases are also shown in object B at $23,905 in fiscal year 2028, and $58,054 in fiscal year 2029, and ongoing.

The 5% agency administrative costs are shown in object T and are $6,852 in fiscal year 2028, and $20,735 in fiscal year 2029 and ongoing.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	**FY2029**
FTE (xx direct FTE)	64.0	64.9
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$17,941,000	$17,284,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$17,941,000	$17,284,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to implementing the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.2 Improve recruiting, hiring and retention practices and employee satisfaction to support a diverse, knowledgeable, inclusive and skilled workforce.

This request will allow WCC to continue providing real world job training to its 315 members annually. This training readies our members for employment in:

- Natural resource management
- Environmental policy
- Disaster planning and response

For approximately 50% of members without college degrees, the AmeriCorps education award provides an opportunity to pursue college coursework. For members with student loans, the education award helps them pay down these loans as they begin their careers. This request will support the state share of wages for members during their participation in WCC. By continuing to support an equitable increase to the living allowance to match the state minimum wage, Washington is helping ensure WCC members can afford to continue participating in the program.

Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts
Objective 2.2 Increase the resilience of communities and ecosystems to climate change through planning, response, recovery, and adaptation efforts.

This request will support the work of WCC crews that engage in environmental restoration projects, including:

- Installing native plantings
- Removing invasive species and marine debris
- Adding woody debris to streams to improve salmon habitat
- Spreading salmon analogs to improve the health of streams and rivers

WCC crews engage in the actual boots-on-the-ground labor of reducing and preparing for climate change. In 2025, WCC crews improved or cleared 4,145 acres of land across Washington. Crews spent 5,254 hours monitoring, surveying, and collecting data to improve our understanding of the environmental problems projects are designed to address and assess restoration outcomes.

Also in 2025, WCC planted more than 348,847 trees or shrubs, which filter toxins from watersheds, help control flood waters, and sequester carbon. These riparian plants support aquatic habitat by stabilizing stream banks and cooling streams and rivers, essential for salmon and other wildlife. As an ongoing project, WCC crews are removing creosote, which is treated debris from beaches and marine and estuarine waters. This immediately eliminates a source of toxic pollutants, especially in Puget Sound and the Pacific Ocean coast.

Goal 3: Prevent and reduce toxic threats and pollution
Objective 3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will reduce, prevent, and manage pollution by supporting the WCC crews engaging in environmental restoration projects. WCC projects, such as planting trees and shrubs, filter toxins from watersheds, reduce contamination, and manage pollution. WCC work removing creosote-treated debris from beaches and waters prevents toxic pollution from occurring.

Goal 4: Protect and manage our state's waters
Objective 4.3 Improve floodplains, wetlands, watershed, streamflow, and riparian habitats

This request will improve state waters by supporting WCC crews engaging in environmental restoration projects that filter toxins from watersheds, prevent marine and estuarine pollution, and revive habitats in and around state waters.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – WCC will contribute to restoration and preservation of Washington's environmental and natural resources. WCC is a statewide resource that enables young people to engage in restoration and recreation access projects. WCC partners with over 110 Tribal governments; private organizations; and local, state, and federal agencies to ensure our riparian corridors increase in resilience, trails and recreation areas remain accessible, and communities impacted by severe weather have resources available to help them recover.

WCC also contributes to long-term environmental protection goals by making nature more accessible for the public. We know that when people engage with nature through activities like hiking, camping, and boating, it builds an environmental ethic that makes them more likely to commit to protecting nature in the future. Last year, WCC crews installed or improved 459 miles of public trails and built or cleaned thousands of campsites.

Education and Workforce – WCC will provide real world job training to its 315 members annually. This training readies our members for employment in:

- Natural resource management
- Environmental policy
- Disaster planning and response

For approximately 50% of members without college degrees, the AmeriCorps education award provides an opportunity to pursue college coursework. For members with student loans, the education award helps them pay down these loans as they begin their careers. This request will support the state share of wages for members during their participation in WCC. By continuing to support an equitable increase to the living allowance to match the state minimum wage, Washington is helping ensure WCC members can afford to continue participating in the program.

Performance Outcomes:

The outcome of this budget request will be securing adequate funding to continue the legacy of our nationally recognized WCC.

Continuing state support at its current rate will help WCC meet state and federal performance goals including:

- Removing invasive species and installing native plants to improve habitat for fish and wildlife.
- Increasing public access and safety by constructing or improving trails.
- Reducing the risk of floods and wildfires through forest health management.
- Assisting disaster response.
- Providing service opportunities for young adults and military veterans

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

WCC regularly gathers feedback from members, partners, and staff through surveys, focus groups, and written comments, making space for storytelling. Members complete mid- and end-season surveys, and partners provide input through an annual survey and program debriefs. This feedback is used to expand project selection criteria, provide better support for members, and identify other areas for improvement. A consistent concern shared in feedback is the need for competitive living stipends, due to high living costs, member retention challenges, and competing opportunities. Members of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations are less likely to participate as WCC members if they cannot support themselves, losing the opportunity for training and future employment opportunities. WCC strives to respond to this feedback, but we are constrained by AmeriCorps' maximum living allowance rules and the overall program cost to partner organizations.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This budget request to increase the living wage and benefits coverage for WCC members does not have direct environmental or health impacts to overburdened communities or vulnerable populations, although service equity is a consideration for project selection in this program. WCC expanded its competitive project application process to include criteria designed to prioritize projects and locations that help improve environmental justice. Criteria include whether work would occur in rural or economically disadvantaged areas and whether it would mitigate environmental harms for overburdened communities or Tribal governments. This change in criteria helps advance projects for organizations with limited resources, so WCC provides the greatest benefit in areas of the state with the greatest need.

This request does not have a significant impact on federally recognized Tribal rights.

Target Communities and Populations:

The WCC offers young adults and military veterans paid, full-term AmeriCorps service opportunities and an education award. This budget request will benefit these WCC members. These groups face significant unemployment, with young adults unemployed at 14.4%, the highest rate of any age group nationally (U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics 2026). Washington State unemployment in March 2026 was 5.1% overall (US Bureau of Labor and Statistics 2026), ahead of the national average at 4.3% (U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics 2026).

WCC members are distributed across 17 Washington counties, including nine designated as rural and seven considered to be in economic distress. Distressed counties are those where the three-year unemployment rate is at least 20% higher than the statewide average: https://esd.wa.gov/jobs-and-training/labor-market-information/labor-force-and-unemployment/distressed-areas-list. This request will address inequity by ensuring WCC members get a livable living allowance equal to Washington's minimum wage. This will provide a strategic benefit to members without external resources to support participation, allowing them to stay in WCC and gain the training and development offered by the program. This benefit could in turn support overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes by allowing members to stay and work for WCC in their own communities.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

In fiscal year 2025, WCC entered into agreements with 39 local government entities, 12 local conservation districts, seven regional fishery enhancement groups, 30 nonprofit organizations, and 13 Tribal governments to complete environmental restoration and recreational enhancement projects. WCC also partnered with seven different federal agencies, including every national forest and park in the state. A complete list of WCC partners is available in Attachment A Tab 1.

State agency partners include the Departments of Fish and Wildlife, Health, Natural Resources, and Transportation; the Military Department; and Washington State Parks. These agencies request funding from their budgets and external sources to support the sponsor's 75% share of WCC crew costs. They invest in WCC because they know our program provides hands-on experience for the next generation of environmental leaders who are in line to be recruited into their agencies. Our federal partners request WCC's demographic data for crews serving on their projects as part of their seasonal labor force tracking.

All our partners rely on WCC crews to install native plants, remove noxious weeds, build trails, reduce brush to mitigate fire risk, recover from floods, and perform a host of other environmental restoration and disaster service activities. These partners rely on having WCC crews located in every corner of the state, fully staffed with members who can complete projects. Our partners also expect WCC to represent the communities where crews are serving. If WCC does not provide competitive pay and benefits, the program risks not having sufficient crews to support our partner's needs. This would make it more difficult to staff crews with diverse members who represent their communities.

These organizations rely on WCC's costshare model as a cost-effective investment to complete restoration projects and develop new environmental leaders.

Stakeholder Impacts:

In fiscal year 2025, WCC entered into agreements with 39 local government entities, 12 local conservation districts, seven regional fishery enhancement groups, 30 nonprofit organizations, and 13 Tribal governments to complete environmental restoration projects. These partners support this funding request because it will maintain the existing costshare arrangement and increase member wages. Our partner organizations understand WCC's costshare structure and they plan their budgets accordingly. The living allowances and education award funds are invested back into local communities and support recruiting and retaining WCC members serving these organizations. Our partners also want to help WCC build experienced environmental specialists who can move into leadership roles in local and Tribal governments, state and federal agencies and public benefit nonprofit organizations.

This budget request will allow WCC to continue to offer cost-effective services within a marketplace of other AmeriCorps programs. It will give career opportunities to Washington's young adults and veterans. The 75/25 costshare structure provides incentives for partner organizations to invest in WCC's development model for young adults and military veterans, but remain flexible when disasters occur and local, state, and federal emergency response managers request WCC disaster assistance. Without this current costshare structure, WCC would become just another labor pool for our partners—with production instead of training, mentorship and skill building—becoming the primary goal. If production becomes the primary goal, our partners could choose service providers that do not shift crew resources when disaster services are required.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This budget request is an effort to align the WCC member living allowance with state's minimum wage requirements under RCW 49.46.020.

RCW 43.220.231 sets limitations on use of funds (agency administrative costs, program support costs, and supervision of WCC members).

WCC is bound by:

- The subgrant AmeriCorps award provided through Office of Financial Management/Serve Washington that expires on September 30, 2026. Scoring criteria include demonstrated need, intervention, logic model, evidence base, funding priority, member training and supervision, member experience, commitment to AmeriCorps, member enrollment and retention, organizational capability, and cost effectiveness and budget adequacy.

- AmeriCorps' legal authority to award these grants, which is found in the National and Community - Service Act of 1990, as amended, (NCSA) (42 U.S.C. 12501 et seq.).
- Member agreements that renew annually. These agreements specify term of service, living allowance equal to minimum wage, health insurance and childcare benefits, sick leave, member development, and WCC responsibilities.
- Project partner agreements that specify the number of WCC crews, consisting of one crew supervisor and five WCC members, number of weeks agreed upon, weekly rate, and Ecology's share. 122 project partner agreements are slated to renew annually.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits-Attachment A.xlsx
2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits-Attachment B.xlsx
2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits-HEAL Act.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. B	$32	$83	**$115**	$83	$83	**$166**
Obj. N	$105	$331	**$436**	$331	$331	**$662**
Obj. T	$7	$21	**$28**	$21	$21	**$42**

Agency Contact Information

Joenne McGerr
(360) 870-1913
joenne.mcgerr@ecy.wa.gov

Attachment A Tab 1: WCC Partner Organizations

As of August 2026

Federal

Mount Rainier National Park/Wonderland Trail Conservation Corps
North Cascades National Park
Olympic National Park
US Fish and Wildlife
US Forest Service

Tribal Governments

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation
Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
Kalispel Tribe of Indians
Lower Elwha Klallam Tribe
Makah Tribe
Nisqually Indian Tribe
Nooksack Tribe
Stillaguamish Tribe of Indians
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Snoqualmie Indian Tribe
Quileute Tribe
Tulalip Tribes
Yakama Nation

Private Organizations and Local Governments

10000 Years Institute
Angela J Bowen Conservancy Foundation
Back Country Horsemen of Washington
Bainbridge Island Land Trust
Canyon Blooms
Cascade Forest Conservancy
Cascadia Conservation District
Chelan County Natural Resources
City of Bellevue
City of Bellingham
City of Burien
City of DuPont
City of Everett
City of Issaquah
City of Kent
City of Kirkland
City of Mount Vernon
City of Redmond
City of SeaTac
City of Spokane, Spokane Fire Department
City of Tacoma
City of Tukwila
Clallam Conservation District
Clallam County Parks
Clark County
Columbia Basin Conservation District
Conservation Northwest
Cowlitz County Noxious Weed Control Program
Douglas County Public Utilities District
Elevate Port Angeles
Friends of Camp Gallagher
Elevate Port Angeles
Friends of Camp Gallagher

Private Organizations and Local Governments (cont.)

Grays Harbor Conservation District
Great Peninsula Conservancy
Hood Canal Salmon Enhancement Group
Inland Northwest Land Conservancy
Jefferson County Conservation District
Jefferson County Noxious Weed Control Board
Jefferson Land Trust
Keta Legacy Foundation
King Conservation District
King County DNRP
King County Parks
Kingston Village Green
Kitsap Conservation District
Lower Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
Mid-Columbia Fisheries Enhancement Group
North Olympic Salmon Coalition
North Yakima Conservation District
Northwest School of Wooden Boat Building
Olympia Ecosystems
Olympia Tumwater Foundation
Palouse Conservation District
Pierce Conservation District
Pierce County Parks
Port of Seattle
Port of Tacoma
Rain shadow Bird Conservancy
San Juan County Land Bank (San Juan)
San Juan Preservation Trust
Sauk-Suiattle Indian Tribe
Seattle Public Utilities / Cedar River Watershed
Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Skagit Land Trust
Skamania County Noxious Weed Program
Snohomish Conservation District
Snohomish County (Surface Water Management)
Snohomish County Public Works
Spokane County Public Works
Spokane Mountaineers
The Nature Conservancy
Thurston Conservation District
Trout Unlimited
Walla Walla County Conservation District
Whatcom County Flood Control Zone District
Whatcom County Public Works
Whatcom Million Trees
Whidbey Camano Land Trust
Wild Salmon Center

State Agencies

Northwest Straits Commission
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
Washington Department of Health
Washington Department of Natural Resources
Washington Department of Transportation
Washington Military Department
Washington Office of Financial Management (Serve WA)
Washington State Parks and Recreation
Washington Department of Ecology

Attachment A Tab 2: Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

12-Month Percent Change

As of August 2026

Series Id: CWUR0000SA0
Not Seasonally Adjusted
Series Title: All items in U.S. city average, urban wage earners and clerical workers, not seasonally adjusted
Area: U.S. city average
Item: All items
Base Period: 1982-84=100
Years: 2016 to 2026

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	HALF1	HALF2
2016	1.2	0.7	0.5	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.4	0.7	1.2	1.4	1.5	2.0	0.8	1.2
2017	2.5	2.8	2.3	2.1	1.8	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.3	2.1	2.3	2.2	2.2	2.1
2018	2.1	2.3	2.4	2.6	3.0	3.1	3.2	2.9	2.3	2.7	2.2	1.8	2.6	2.5
2019	1.3	1.3	1.8	1.9	1.7	1.4	1.7	1.5	1.5	1.6	1.9	2.3	1.6	1.7
2020	2.5	2.3	1.5	0.1	-0.1	0.5	1.0	1.4	1.5	1.3	1.3	1.4	1.1	1.3
2021	1.6	1.9	3.0	4.7	5.6	6.1	6.0	5.8	5.9	6.9	7.6	7.8	3.8	6.7
2022	8.2	8.6	9.4	8.9	9.3	9.8	9.1	8.7	8.5	7.9	7.1	6.3	9.0	7.9
2023	6.3	5.8	4.5	4.6	3.6	2.3	2.6	3.4	3.6	3.1	3.0	3.3	4.5	3.2
2024	2.9	3.1	3.5	3.4	3.3	2.9	2.9	2.4	2.2	2.4	2.6	2.8	3.2	2.5
2025	3.0	2.7	2.2	2.1	2.2	2.6	2.5	2.8	2.9		2.7	2.6	2.4	2.7
2026	2.2	2.2	3.3	3.9	4.4	3.5							3.3	

Average over most recent 12 months: **3.0%**
Current inflation (June 2026): **3.5%**

Source: Data available through June 2026 data extract from https://data.bls.gov/timeseries/CWUR0000SA0&output_view=pct_12mths

1. Per Washington L&I: [Minimum Wage] shall be calculated to the nearest cent using the consumer price index for urban wage earners and clerical workers, CPI-W, or a successor index, for the twelve months prior to each Sept. 1.

Attachment A Tab 3: Equitable Living Allowance Calculation and Crosswalk

Purpose: This attachment provides the calculation details and crosswalk between the projected statewide minimum wage each month, and the WCC living allowance for each crew year.
As of August 2026

	2026-27 Crew Year (Oct 2026-Sept 2027) Actual 2026 and Estimated 2027 Minimum Wage (revised from 2025-27 decision package)				2027-28 Crew Year (Oct 2027-Sept 2028) Estimated 2027 and 2028 Minimum Wage				2028-29 Crew Year (Oct 2028-Sept 2029) Estimated 2028 and 2029 Minimum Wage			
Month	**Hours**	**Min. Wage Estimate**	**Monthly Pay - Min. Wage**	**Semi-monthly Living Allowance**	**Hours**	**Min. Wage Estimate**	**Monthly Pay - Min. Wage**	**Semi-monthly Living Allowance**	**Hours**	**Min. Wage Estimate**	**Monthly Pay - Min. Wage**	**Semi-monthly Living Allowance**
October	170	$ 17.13	$ 2,912	$ 2,916	170	$ 17.64	$ 2,999	$ 3,004	170	$ 18.17	$ 3,089	$ 3,094
November	150	$ 17.13	$ 2,570	$ 2,916	150	$ 17.64	$ 2,646	$ 3,004	150	$ 18.17	$ 2,726	$ 3,094
December	160	$ 17.13	$ 2,741	$ 2,916	160	$ 17.64	$ 2,822	$ 3,004	160	$ 18.17	$ 2,907	$ 3,094
January	170	$ 17.64	$ 2,999	$ 2,916	170	$ 18.17	$ 3,089	$ 3,004	170	$ 18.71	$ 3,181	$ 3,094
February	150	$ 17.64	$ 2,646	$ 2,916	150	$ 18.17	$ 2,726	$ 3,004	150	$ 18.71	$ 2,807	$ 3,094
March	180	$ 17.64	$ 3,175	$ 2,916	180	$ 18.17	$ 3,271	$ 3,004	180	$ 18.71	$ 3,368	$ 3,094
April	160	$ 17.64	$ 2,822	$ 2,916	160	$ 18.17	$ 2,907	$ 3,004	160	$ 18.71	$ 2,994	$ 3,094
May	180	$ 17.64	$ 3,175	$ 2,916	180	$ 18.17	$ 3,271	$ 3,004	180	$ 18.71	$ 3,368	$ 3,094
June	160	$ 17.64	$ 2,822	$ 2,916	160	$ 18.17	$ 2,907	$ 3,004	160	$ 18.71	$ 2,994	$ 3,094
July	160	$ 17.64	$ 2,822	$ 2,916	160	$ 18.17	$ 2,907	$ 3,004	160	$ 18.71	$ 2,994	$ 3,094
August	190	$ 17.64	$ 3,352	$ 2,916	190	$ 18.17	$ 3,452	$ 3,004	190	$ 18.71	$ 3,555	$ 3,094
September	30	$ 17.64	$ 529	$ 486	30	$ 18.17	$ 545	$ 501	30	$ 18.71	$ 561	$ 516
Total	1,860		**$ 32,566**	**$ 32,562**	1,860		**$ 33,542**	**$ 33,545**	1,860		**$ 34,541**	**$ 34,550**
ESTIMATED Semi-monthly living allowance:			**$ 1,458**	**$ 1,458**			**$ 1,502**	**$ 1,502**			**$ 1,547**	**$ 1,547**

Statewide: Minimum Wage to Living Allowance Calculation	**Decision Package**	**Living Allowance**	**Avg. Min. Wage**
2026-27 Crew Year (Oct 2026-Sept 2027) Living allowance funded in the 2025-27 budget request and included in 2027-29 carryforward level funding [2]	2025-27	$ 1,478	$ 17.75
ESTIMATED 2027-28 Crew Year (Oct 2027-Sept 2028) - see table above	2027-29	$ 1,502	$ 18.04
ESTIMATED 2028-29 Crew Year (Oct 2028-Sept 2029) - see table above	2027-29	$ 1,547	$ 18.58

1. The 2027-29 budget request includes 2027-28 Crew Year (October-September) and partial 2028-29 Crew Year (October-June)
2. The 2025-27 budget request assumed minimum wage amounts based on higher inflation rates experienced at the time. The base living allowance amounts used in this budget request are based on $1,478 semi-monthly amount assumed, rather than the $1,458 that would be calculated today. This results in a lower request for 2027-29, but accurately reflects the funding level that was provided in the 2025-27 budget request and carryforward level funding for 2027-29.

Attachment A Tab 4A: WCC Member Living Allowance and Benefits Impacts (Excluding Service Equity Funded Crew Members)

Purpose: This attachment provides the calculation details for the funding requested to adjust WCC members' living allowance (with associated benefits/administration) for the 2027-29 Biennium.
As of August 2026

				FY 2028		FY 2029		Total
	Semi-Monthly Living Allowance Per Member	Change/Semi-Monthly over previous baseline	# of Corps Members (excluding Service Equity)	7/1/2027 - 9/15/2027 [4]	10/1/2027 - 6/30/2028	7/1/2028 - 9/15/2028	10/1/2028 - 6/30/2029	
Living allowance funded in the 2025-27 budget request and included in 2027-29 carryforward level funding	$ 1,478							
Crew year 2027-2028 (10/1/27 - 9/15/28) [5]	$ 1,502	$ 24	290		$ 125,280	$ 34,800		
Crew year 2028-2029 (10/1/28 - 9/15/29) [6]	$ 1,547	$ 69	290				$ 360,180	
Biennial Living Allowance Total					**$ 125,280**	**$ 34,800**	**$ 360,180**	**$ 520,260**
Benefits Summary								
		BA/OASI 6.2%			$ 7,767	$ 2,158	$ 22,331	**$ 32,256**
		BH/Medicare 1.45%			$ 1,817	$ 505	$ 5,223	**$ 7,545**
Biennial Benefits Total					**$ 9,584**	**$ 2,663**	**$ 27,554**	**$ 39,801**
Biennial Admin Fee 5% Total		Administration Fee 5%			**$ 6,743**	**$ 1,873**	**$ 19,387**	**$ 28,003**
Total Request					**$ 141,607**	**$ 39,336**	**$ 407,121**	**$ 588,064**
Fund Source Breakdown								
25% State Share (23P-1)					**$ 35,402**	**$ 9,834**	**$ 101,780**	**$ 147,016**
75% Partner Share					**$ 106,205**	**$ 29,502**	**$ 305,341**	**$ 441,048**
001-020					$ 12,745	$ 3,540	$ 36,641	**$ 52,926**
001-500					$ 58,413	$ 16,226	$ 167,938	**$ 242,577**
Inter-Agency Agreements (not shown in budget request)					$ 35,047	$ 9,736	$ 100,762	**$ 145,545**
Budget Request (excludes Inter-Agency Agreements)					**$ 106,560**	**$ 29,600**	**$ 306,359**	**$ 442,519**

Notes:

1. WCC Crew Year reflects the Federal Fiscal Year (October - September).
2. See Attachment 3 for minimum wage and living allowance calculations and crosswalk details.
3. Minimum wage reflects the current or projected statewide minimum wage for each month of the identified crew year. Projected minimum wage months assume increases each January, tied to the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) per RCW 49.46.020. Assumes 3.0% to reflect previous 12 month average.
4. The baseline (carryforward level) for the entire 2027-29 biennium is based on a semi-monthly living allowance of $1,478 throughout the biennium. This living allowance was the 2026-2027 crew year request made in the 2025-27 budget request. No additional funds are requested for the 2026-2027 crew year because it is funded with carryforward funding.
5. The difference between the semi-monthly baseline (carryforward level) living allowance and the 2027-28 crew year living allowance is $24 ($1,502 - $1,478).
6. The difference between the semi-monthly baseline (carryforward level) living allowance and the 2028-29 crew year living allowance is $69 ($1,547 - $1,478).

Attachment A Tab 4B: WCC Member Living Allowance and Benefits Impacts (Service Equity Funded Crew Members Only)

Purpose: This attachment provides the calculation details for the funding requested to adjust WCC members' living allowance (with associated benefits/administration) for the 2027-29 Biennium.
As of August 2026

				FY 2028		FY 2029		Total
	Semi-Monthly Living Allowance Per Member	Change/Semi-Monthly over previous baseline	# of Service Equity Corps Members	7/1/2027 - 9/15/2027 [4]	10/1/2027 - 6/30/2028	7/1/2028 - 9/15/2028	10/1/2028 - 6/30/2029	
Living allowance funded in the 2025-27 budget request and included in 2027-29 carryforward level funding	$ 1,478							
Crew year 2027-2028 (10/1/27 - 9/15/28) [5]	$ 1,502	$ 24	25		$ 10,800	$ 3,000		
Crew year 2028-2029 (10/1/28 - 9/15/29) [6]	$ 1,547	$ 69	25				$ 31,050	
Biennial Living Allowance Total					**$ 10,800**	**$ 3,000**	**$ 31,050**	**$ 44,850**
Benefits Summary								
		BA/OASI 6.2%			$ 670	$ 186	$ 1,925	**$ 2,781**
		BH/Medicare 1.45%			$ 157	$ 44	$ 450	**$ 651**
Biennial Benefits Total					**$ 827**	**$ 230**	**$ 2,375**	**$ 3,432**
Biennial Admin Fee 5% Total		Administration Fee 5%			**$ 581**	**$ 162**	**$ 1,671**	**$ 2,414**
Total Request					**$ 12,208**	**$ 3,392**	**$ 35,096**	**$ 50,696**
Fund Source Breakdown								
100% State Share (23P-1)					**$ 12,208**	**$ 3,392**	**$ 35,096**	**$ 50,696**
Total Request (Shown in budget request)					**$ 12,208**	**$ 3,392**	**$ 35,096**	**$ 50,696**

Notes:

1. WCC Crew Year reflects the Federal Fiscal Year (October - September).
2. See Attachment 3 for minimum wage and living allowance calculations and crosswalk details.
3. Minimum wage reflects the current or projected statewide minimum wage for each month of the identified crew year. Projected minimum wage months assume increases each January, tied to the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) per RCW 49.46.020. Assumes 2.7% to reflect previous 12 month average.
4. The baseline (carryforward level) for the entire 2027-29 biennium is based on a semi-monthly living allowance of $1,478 throughout the biennium. This living allowance was the 2026-2027 crew year request made in the 2025-27 budget request. No additional funds are requested for the 2026-2027 crew year because it is funded with carryforward funding.
5. The difference between the semi-monthly baseline (carryforward level) living allowance and the 2027-28 crew year living allowance is $24 ($1,502 - $1,478).
6. The difference between the semi-monthly baseline (carryforward level) living allowance and the 2028-29 crew year living allowance is $69 ($1,547 - $1,478).

Attachment A Tab 5A: WCC Health Insurance Impacts (Excluding Service Equity Funded Crew Members)

Purpose: This attachment provides the calculation details for the funding requested to cover increases in health care costs for WCC AmeriCorps members during the 2027-29 biennium.
As of August 2026

				FY28		FY29		Total
	Monthly Health Insurance Rates [2]	Change/Monthly over previous baseline	# of Corps Members (excluding Service Equity) [3]	7/1/2027 - 9/15/2027 [4]	10/1/2027 - 6/30/2028	7/1/2028 - 9/15/2028	10/1/2028 - 6/30/2029	
Benefits Summary								
Member health insurance funded in the 2025-27 budget request and included in 2027-29 carryforward level funding	$ 234							
Crew year 2027-2028 (10/1/27 - 9/15/28) [5]	$ 255	$ 21	290		$ 28,502	$ 9,501		**$ 38,003**
Crew year 2028-2029 (10/1/28 - 9/15/29) [6]	$ 278	$ 44	290				$ 59,717	**$ 59,717**
Biennial Benefits Total					**$ 28,502**	**$ 9,501**	**$ 59,717**	**$ 97,720**
Biennial Admin Fee 5% Total					**$ 1,425**	**$ 475**	**$ 2,986**	**$ 4,886**
Total Increases					**$ 29,927**	**$ 9,976**	**$ 62,703**	**$ 102,606**
Fund Source Breakdown								
25% State Share (23P-1)					**$ 7,482**	**$ 2,494**	**$ 15,676**	**$ 25,652**
75% Partner Share					**$ 22,445**	**$ 7,482**	**$ 47,027**	**$ 76,954**
001-020					$ 2,693	$ 898	$ 5,643	**$ 9,234**
001-500					$ 12,345	$ 4,115	$ 25,865	**$ 42,325**
Inter-Agency Agreements (not shown in budget request)					$ 7,407	$ 2,469	$ 15,519	**$ 25,395**
Budget Request (excludes Inter-Agency Agreements)					**$ 22,520**	**$ 7,507**	**$ 47,184**	**$ 77,211**

Notes:

1. WCC uses a broker to negotiate best available health insurance rate for members.
2. Brokerage estimates for statewide insurance trends assumes a 9% annual increase.
3. Calculations are adjusted for a membership enrollment rate of 52% based on experience.
4. The baseline (carryforward level) for the entire 2027-29 biennium is based on a monthly health benefit of $234 throughout the biennium. This health benefit was the 2026-2027 crew year request made in the 2025-27 budget request. No additional funds are requested for the 2026-2027 crew year because it is funded with carryforward funding.
5. The difference between the monthly baseline (carryforward level) member health insurance and the 2027-28 crew year insurance is $21 ($255 - $234).
6. The difference between the monthly baseline (carryforward level) member health insurance and the 2028-29 crew year insurance is $44 ($278 - $234).

Monthly Health Insurance Rate Estimates	Decision Package	Monthly Rate	Baseline (Carryforward)	Increase/ month from Baseline
2026-27 Crew Year (Oct 2026-Sept 2027)	2025-27	$ 234	$ 234	$ -
ESTIMATED 2027-28 Crew Year (Oct 2027-Sept 2028)	2027-29	$ 255	$ 234	$ 21
ESTIMATED 2028-29 Crew Year (Oct 2028-Sept 2029)	2027-29	$ 278	$ 234	$ 44

Attachment A Tab 5B: WCC Health Insurance Impacts (Service Equity Funded Crew Members Only)

Purpose: This attachment provides the calculation details for the funding requested to cover increases in health care costs for WCC AmeriCorps members during the 2027-29 biennium.

As of August 2026

				FY28		FY29		Total
	Monthly Health Insurance Rates [2]	Change/Monthly over previous baseline	# of Service Equity Corps Members [3]	7/1/2027 - 9/15/2027 [4]	10/1/2027 - 6/30/2028	7/1/2028 - 9/15/2028	10/1/2028 - 6/30/2029	
Benefits Summary								
Member health insurance funded in the 2025-27 budget request and included in 2027-29 carryforward level funding	$ 234							
Crew year 2027-2028 (10/1/27 - 9/15/28) [5]	$ 255	$ 21	25		$ 2,457	$ 819		**$ 3,276**
Crew year 2028-2029 (10/1/28 - 9/15/29) [6]	$ 278	$ 44	25				$ 5,148	**$ 5,148**
Biennial Benefits Total					**$ 2,457**	**$ 819**	**$ 5,148**	**$ 8,424**
Biennial Admin Fee 5% Total					**$ 123**	**$ 41**	**$ 257**	**$ 421**
Total Increases					**$ 2,580**	**$ 860**	**$ 5,405**	**$ 8,845**
Fund Source Breakdown								
100% State Share (23P-1)					**$ 2,580**	**$ 860**	**$ 5,405**	**$ 8,845**
Total Request (Shown in budget request)					**$ 2,580**	**$ 860**	**$ 5,405**	**$ 8,845**

Notes:

1. WCC uses a broker to negotiate best available health insurance rate for members.
2. Brokerage estimates for statewide insurance trends assumes a 9% annual increase.
3. Calculations are adjusted for a membership enrollment rate of 52% based on experience.
4. The baseline (carryforward level) for the entire 2027-29 biennium is based on a monthly health benefit of $234 throughout the biennium. This health benefit was the 2026-2027 crew year request made in the 2025-27 budget request. No additional funds are requested for the 2026-2027 crew year because it is funded with carryforward funding.
5. The difference between the monthly baseline (carryforward level) member health insurance and the 2027-28 crew year insurance is $21 ($255 - $234).
6. The difference between the monthly baseline (carryforward level) member health insurance and the 2028-29 crew year insurance is $44 ($278 - $234).

ATTACHMENT B - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

August 2026

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2025-27	PL EC WCC Member Wages and Benefits	Funding is provided for the Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) program to maintain compensation amounts on par with the state minimum wage.	001-2 001-7 23P-1	Ongoing	$ 586,000
2023-25	PL AD WCC Member Wages and Benefits	The Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) collaborates with organizations to complete environmental restoration and recreation enhancement projects statewide. Funding is provided for a WCC member living allowance that is comparable to the state minimum wage law.	001-2 001-7 23P-1	Ongoing	$ 2,501,000

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

This budget request to increase the living wage and benefits coverage for Washington Conservation Corps (WCC) crew members does not have direct environmental or health impacts to overburdened communities or vulnerable populations, though service equity is a consideration for project selection in this program. WCC expanded its competitive project application process to include criteria designed to prioritize projects and locations that help improve service equity and environmental justice. Criteria include whether work would occur in rural or economically disadvantaged areas and whether it would mitigate environmental harms for overburdened communities or Tribal governments. This change in criteria helps advance projects from organizations with limited resources, so WCC provides the greatest benefit in areas of the state with the greatest need.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   Not applicable

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   Not applicable

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   Not applicable

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   This budget request does not have a significant impact on federally recognized Tribal rights. WCC regularly gathers feedback from members, partners, and staff through surveys, focus groups, and written comments. Partners, including Tribes, provide input through an annual survey and program debriefs.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your

agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

Not applicable

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Public Participation Grant (PPG) program is a competitive grant program that funds individuals and nonprofit public interest organizations to conduct education and outreach work. This work pertains to investigating and cleaning up contaminated sites and carrying out recycling and waste management projects that improve recycling rates and waste management outcomes. Ecology requests a maintenance level adjustment of $462,000 to keep grant funding aligned with the mandated level of 1% of money collected under RCW 82.21.030, Hazardous Substance Tax. This request is related to implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda. (Model Toxics Control Operating Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 23P - 1	$231	$231	**$462**	$231	$231	**$462**
Total Expenditures	**$231**	**$231**	**$462**	**$231**	**$231**	**$462**

Decision Package Description

Background:

The Public Participation Grant (PPG) program was enacted in 1988 when Washington voters passed Initiative 97, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA). It provides competitive grants to individuals and nonprofit public interest organizations to conduct education and outreach work pertaining to investigating and cleaning up contaminated sites and carrying out recycling and waste management projects that improve recycling rates and waste management outcomes.

The requested funding will enable residents to make informed comments and to be involved in the decision-making process for toxic and hazardous waste cleanup sites in their communities. This funding will also aim to reduce waste and improve waste management in line with the state's solid waste management priorities, including organic waste and waste reduction and reuse. Outreach and education grants encourage public participation and environmental stewardship.

State law requires 1% of revenue collected from the Hazardous Substance Tax (HST) be allocated only for PPG (RCW 70A.305.180(4)). Ecology makes this maintenance level request every biennium to align PPG funding with the level mandated in state law.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?

See Attachment A - Related Budget Items Funded in the Prior and/or Current Biennia (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Problem/Opportunity:

The 2027-29 carryforward level (CFL) for the PPG program is currently $6,345,000. This base budget falls short of the mandate established under RCW 70A.305.180(4), which dictates that 1% of the HST revenues must be allocated exclusively to PPG. Based on fiscal years 2025 and 2026 actual revenue collections through fiscal month 12 (close of fiscal year 2026), the mandated 1% funding level is estimated to be $6,807,000. Without this requested maintenance level adjustment, the program will face a deficit of $462,000 against its legally required allocation.

Proposed Solution:

Ecology is requesting a maintenance level adjustment of $462,000 for the 2027-29 biennium, which is $261,000 for fiscal year 2028 and $261,000 for fiscal year 2029. This request will be funded entirely out of the MTCA Operating Account under Object N (Grants, Benefits, and Client Services). The funding will fully align the PPG budget with the statutory 1% mandate. The increased funding will allow the program to expand its reach and award one additional highly competitive grant each fiscal year statewide to individuals and public interest nonprofits. These resources will buy critical public education, community outreach, and technical assistance. Specifically, PPGs support public engagement in toxic cleanup site investigations and fund proactive waste reduction projects.

Please note: Ecology will provide any updates needed for this request to OFM by October 1, 2026, based on final fiscal year 2026 adjustments that Department of Revenue may make during Phase 2 close in September.

Impacts on Population Served:

The adjusted PPG budget level will fund approximately 52 grants each fiscal year to support public engagement in cleanup site planning and investigation and support waste reduction and recycling programs. Examples of PPG statewide positive impacts are described below under Performance Outcomes.

Alternatives Explored:

Alternatives were not explored because this request fulfills a statutory requirement.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

If this request is not funded, the state would be out of compliance with RCW 70A.305.180(4).

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

The 2027-29 CFL for PPG is $6,345,000, including support for 1.5 direct FTEs to write and administer grant agreements each year and provide grant funding to individuals and nonprofit organizations statewide. This budget request is for increasing the 2027-29 PPG funded level to $6,807,000.

The PPG appropriation is from the MTCA Operating Account and is part of Activity A013 Provide Planning and Financial Assistance to Manage and Reduce Waste. Grants are awarded for one year, with automatic renewal for a second year. Because the first year includes time initiating grant agreements and ramping up work, about one third of the funding is distributed in the first fiscal year of the biennium, and the rest in the second year. Administrative overhead related to this activity is in the agency's Administration Activity A002.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Historically, PPG was funded with 1% of the money deposited into the State and Local Toxics Control Accounts. Starting in the 2013 -15 biennium, PPG funding comes from 1% of the money collected under RCW 82.21.030, Hazardous Substance Tax (Second Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5296 Model Toxics Control Act, Laws of 2013 2nd Special Session, Section 9(7)).

The 2027-29 CFL for PPG is below the estimated 1% of HST revenue collections from the previous two years. This request is for a maintenance level increase to keep PPG funding aligned with the mandated level of 1% of money collected under RCW 82.21.030.

ML Calculation: [202729 Biennium PPG ML Change] = [1% x (fiscal year 2025 actuals + fiscal year 2026 preliminary actuals)] [202527 Biennium PPG CFL] = [0.01 x ($333,129,344 + $347,560,103)] - [$6,345,000] = $6,806,894 - $6,345,000 = $461,894 (rounded up to $462,000). See Attachment B – Public Participation Grants 1% Calculation for additional details.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
N	Grants, Benefits, and Client Services	231,000	231,000	231,000	231,000	231,000	231,000
	Total Objects	**231,000**	**231,000**	**231,000**	**231,000**	**231,000**	**231,000**

Staffing							
Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
Total FTEs		**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object

All costs will be for Grants (Object N).

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	**FY2029**
FTE (xx direct FTE)	1.5	1.5
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$3,172,000	$3,173,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$3,172,000	$3,173,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 2: Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts
Objective 2.1: Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits.

PPG funds support projects that prevent greenhouse gases. For example:

- Food diversion programs that keep food out of the waste stream.
- Repair café projects that provide education and training to fix existing products, instead of buying new ones that must be manufactured.

Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution
Objective 3.2: Decrease waste generation and inefficient use of materials.

Objective 3.3: Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination.

PPG program supports the improvement of recycling systems, including policy advancement and outreach efforts. The program also reduces litter through diverse partnerships, behavior change strategies and pickup programs.

Goal 4: Protect and Manage Our State's Waters
Objective 4.2: Improve and protect the quality of Washington waters

Many of the PPG funded projects are based in key watersheds and rivers throughout the state. PPG supports the cleanup and restoration of degraded water as it relates to hazardous releases from contaminated sites.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential in achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – PPGs are specifically awarded to non-profit, grassroots organizations to facilitate public involvement in hazardous waste cleanup decisions and waste management. By funding community-led research, education, and advocacy, the grant directly helps protect the state's natural resources and promotes sustainable, community-level solutions.

Governance – The core goal of the PPG program is to make state government more effective by empowering underserved or highly impacted communities to engage directly in environmental and permitting processes. It ensures that state decision-making is inclusive, transparent, and centers the lived experiences of everyday Washingtonians.

Performance Outcomes:

The outcome of this request will be an increase in PPG funding to individuals and nonprofit public interest organizations for informing and educating residents about contaminated site cleanups in their local area and supporting the priorities of the state solid and waste hazardous plan.

All PPG projects must provide measurable public benefits and improve public participation through education and outreach. The projects have well-defined activities that show measurable behavior changes related to the problems addressed.

Below are some examples of PPG projects from the last completed biennium (2023-25) grant cycle and the reported outcomes that were accomplished.

Columbia Riverkeeper spent $120,000 to empower youth and residents on the Yakama Reservation and in Treaty territory to provide input in government cleanup decisions for three speci?c areas on the Hanford Nuclear Site.

- 15 people volunteered their time to carry out project activities (stormwater training/monitoring).
- 10 people engaged in formal MTCA Rulemaking because of project webinars.
- 400 views of Ecology's MTCA website and stormwater related project content online (videos, blogs, social media, and webpage posts).
- 200 people attend MTCA site tours in response to project outreach efforts.

Hanford Challenge spent $120,000 working statewide to diversify the conversation about Hanford cleanup issues. The project included working with Hanford-affected Tribes, Spanish speakers, Hanford workers, youth, and the Marshallese community through in-person and digital outreach, events, and guides to make comment periods accessible.

- 414 people submitted public comments to a regulatory agency.
- 2,239 people engaged by participating in events/activities in response to outreach efforts.
- 1,518 people voluntarily engaged with Hanford Challenge as a result of project activities focused on target populations.
- 7 community partners worked to increase participation with focus populations.

Community Health Worker Coalition for Migrants and Refugees spent $120,000 working statewide to reduce pesticide waste and increase safe handling of pesticides for Meso-American migrants and workers using a "train the trainer" model and through an information campaign.

- 2,820 people educated on environmental risks and pesticide waste management.
- 353 participants reported increased knowledge of this waste issue after participation.
- 47,553 people engaged with the information campaign.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

The PPG helps people in Washington take part in decisions. In the 2023-25 biennium, the PPG supported 44 communities. Of these, 19 groups (43%) were overburdened or represented vulnerable populations. Ecology's engagement includes prioritizing these communities in grant application evaluations, delivering technical assistance and outreach on the competitive award process, and proactive technical assistance during grant management.

Tribes are not eligible for this funding and were not engaged in developing this budget request.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

The PPG program prioritizes applicants who are working with and in communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and have socioeconomic and language barriers to accessing environmental benefits. The PPG program provides economic resources to alleviate some of these barriers to engagement in pollution reduction and preferred waste management practices. For example, these funds can be used to translate materials into languages other than English and to develop educational materials on preferred waste management practices, such as composting.

PPG directly helps meet the engagement standards in Ecology's community engagement plan, as the program supports community-based organizations who have direct relationships with those in their communities. This grant funding increases public understanding and involvement in cleaning up contaminated sites or improve waste management practices including reducing pesticide waste and education for safe handling of pesticides for migrants and workers, creating community gardens to improve food security, rescuing food from small local farms to provide food to give to those in need, and funding for tool libraries to reduce solid waste going to landfills.

These community-based organizations, who are closest with their communities, understand the specific needs of the individuals living in their neighborhoods.

Target Communities and Populations:

PPGs are awarded to people who may be adversely affected by a release or threatened release of a hazardous substance and to community-based 501 (c)(3) organizations. Grants are distributed statewide, and Ecology prioritizes distribution to community-based organizations who serve vulnerable populations.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

This request will support the 2026-2030 Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation through the following linkages:

Strategies & Actions

- Research and Monitoring B.03 and B.05
- Good Governance C.01
- Strategic Leadership and collaboration D.02
- Outreach and Behavior Change F.01 and F.02
- Human Health 02.02 and 02.04
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.02 through 03.05, 03.07, and 03.08
- Shared Landscapes 04.04 and 04.05

Biennial Science WorkPlan

- C) SECONDARY: Supports continuity in scientific efforts
- F) SECONDARY: Science that explores equity of distribution of environmental benefits/harms; or whose processes are guided by Tribes, overburdened communities, or vulnerable populations.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

N/A

Stakeholder Impacts:

N/A

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Public Participation Grants-Attachment A.xlsx
Public Participation Grants-Attachment B.xlsx
Public Participation Grants-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. N	$231	$231	**$462**	$231	$231	**$462**

Agency Contact Information

Peter Lyon
(360) 515-8348
peter.lyon@ecy.wa.gov

ATTACHMENT A - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25	ML AE Public Participation Grants	ECY's public participation grant program funding is adjusted to align with the mandated level of one percent of moneys collected under RCW 82.21.030, Hazardous Substance Tax. The Public Participation Program is a competitive grant program that provides funding to help individuals and not-for-profit public interest organizations facilitate public participation in the investigation and remediation of contaminated sites, carry out waste management education projects, and facilitate implementation of the state's solid and hazardous waste management priorities.	23P-1	Ongoing	$1,440,000
2025-27	ML EB Public Participation Grants	ECY's public participation grant program funding is adjusted to align with the mandated level of one percent of moneys collected under RCW 82.21.030, Hazardous Substance Tax. The Public Participation Program is a competitive grant program that provides funding to help individuals and not-for-profit public interest organizations facilitate public participation in the investigation and remediation of contaminated sites, carry out waste management education projects, and facilitate implementation of the state's solid and hazardous waste management priorities.	23P-1	Ongoing	$939,000

ATTACHMENT B - PUBLIC PARTICIPATION GRANTS 1% CALCULATION

Department of Ecology

Purpose: Provide calculation for public participation grant (PPG) biennial budget adjustments. RCW 70A.305.180(4) of the Model Toxics Control Act requires one percent of the moneys collected under RCW 82.21.030 Pollution tax (HST) to be allocated for PPG.

FY2015-2026 HST Revenue from AFRS[1]

Updated: Through Fiscal Month 12 Close for Fiscal Year 2026

Biennium	Year	Actual Revenue[1]	Two Yrs Actual Revenue	1% of Previous 2 Yrs	PPG Carry Forward Approp	Difference	Enacted/ *Requested* Budget Adjustment
2013-15	2015	$ 147,625,708					
2015-17[2]	2016	$ 112,207,500					
	2017	$ 123,516,117	$ 259,833,208				
2017-19	2018	$ 144,223,204		$ 2,598,332	**$ 3,957,000**	$ (1,358,668)	**$ (1,359,000)**
	2019	$ 150,665,320	$ 267,739,321				
2019-21	2020	$ 245,896,255		$ 2,677,393	**$ 2,598,000**	$ 79,393	**$ 79,000**
	2021	$ 252,520,193	$ 396,561,575				
2021-23[3]	2022	$ 288,124,595		$ 3,965,616	**$ 2,677,000**	$ 1,288,616	**$ 1,289,000**
	2023	$ 298,209,000	$ 540,644,788				
2023-25	2024	$ 336,391,150		$ 5,406,448	**$ 3,966,000**	$ 1,440,448	**$ 1,440,000**
	2025	$ 333,129,344	$ 634,600,150				
2025-27	2026	$ 347,560,103		$ 6,346,002	**$ 5,406,000**	$ 940,002	***$ 939,000***
	2027		$ 680,689,447				
2027-29	2028			$ 6,806,894	**$ 6,345,000**	$ 461,894	***$ 462,000***
	2029						

[1] The values for fiscal year 2015 to 2026 represent preliminary actual revenues. These figures are not revised and, therefore, do not include year-end adjustments posted during fiscal year closing.

[2] The 2016 Supplemental cut PPG $3.8 million for the 2015-17 Biennium leaving no funding for grants. The amount was restored in the 2017-19 biennium carryforward.

[3] The enacted 2021-23 biennium transportation budget directs the $50 million HST revenue designated for the Motor Vehicle Account to be prorated equally across each month. The FY 2022 revenue includes the $25 million HST revenue deposited in the Motor Vehicle Account.

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

The Public Participation Grants (PPG) program prioritizes applicants who are working with and in communities that are disproportionately impacted by environmental hazards and have socioeconomic and language barriers to accessing environmental benefits. The PPG program provides economic resources to alleviate some of these barriers to engagement in pollution reduction and preferred waste management practices. The PPG program provides economic resources to alleviate barriers to engagement in pollution reduction and preferred waste management practices. For example, these funds can be used to translate educational materials into languages other than English and to develop materials on preferred waste management practices for communities.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   While there is no formal identification from the community, this is the only a grant that Ecology maintains where funding goes directly to support community needs such as waste management practices, community gardens, and hazardous waste sites. It is also one of the only grants available to community-based organizations to apply.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   The PPG program funds community-led initiatives that advance Ecology's 2025–30 Strategic Plan by promoting environmental justice and fostering local engagement. The program supports Goal 1 by enhancing public involvement through funding for technical assistance and community forums, while advancing Goal 3 by supporting localized hazardous site cleanups and waste reduction efforts.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   Yes, PPG directly helps meet the engagement standards in Ecology's community engagement plan, as the program supports community-based organizations who have direct relationships with those in their communities. This grant funding increases public understanding and involvement in cleaning up contaminated sites or improve waste management practices including reducing pesticide waste and education for safe handling of pesticides for migrants and workers, creating community gardens to improve food security, rescuing food from small local farms to provide food to give to

those in need, and funding for tool libraries to reduce solid waste going to landfills.

These community-based organizations, who are closest with their communities, understand the specific needs of the individuals living in their neighborhoods.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   Tribes are not eligible for this funding and were not engaged in developing this budget request.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   Not applicable.

Agency Recommendation Summary

This request is in response to the Office of Financial Management's (OFM) budget instructions to identify and submit cost savings options for the 2027-29 biennium. As noted in those instructions, protecting core services in a sustainable and equitable way must be a priority but, simultaneously, OFM is expecting significant budget shortfalls next biennium in both the state's operating and transportation budgets. To assist the state with the projected shortalls, Ecology has identified several options that will generate ongoing cost savings and additional revenue for the state's general fund, along with several other dedicated accounts, beginning July 1, 2027. (Multiple Funds)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	-10.1	-10.1	**-10.1**	-10.1	-10.1	**-10.1**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	($2,593)	($2,110)	**($4,703)**	($2,593)	($2,110)	**($4,703)**
Fund 044 - 1	($45)	($45)	**($90)**	($45)	($45)	**($90)**
Fund 176 - 1	($218)	($218)	**($436)**	($218)	($218)	**($436)**
Fund 207 - 1	($39)	($39)	**($78)**	($39)	($39)	**($78)**
Fund 217 - 1	($41)	($41)	**($82)**	($41)	($41)	**($82)**
Fund 23P - 1	($856)	($856)	**($1,712)**	($856)	($856)	**($1,712)**
Fund 296 - 1	$178	$178	**$356**	$178	$178	**$356**
Total Expenditures	**($3,614)**	**($3,131)**	**($6,745)**	**($3,614)**	**($3,131)**	**($6,745)**
Revenue						
001 - 0285	$280	$280	**$560**	$280	$280	**$560**
10G - 0285	$70	$70	**$140**	$70	$70	**$140**
Total Revenue	**$350**	**$350**	**$700**	**$350**	**$350**	**$700**

Decision Package Description

State's Projected Budget Shortfall:
On June 5, 2026, OFM released its operating, transportation, and capital budget instructions for the upcoming 2027-29 biennium. As part of those instructions, and in response to significant budget shortfalls anticipated next biennium in both the state's operating and transportation budgets, OFM directed cabinet agencies to provide reduction options—particularly for General Fund-State (GF-S), through efficiencies, program reforms, and other savings in non-essential services and programs.

Key contributing factors to the state budget challenges include costs for providing essential services that are far outpacing revenue due to inflation, cuts to federal funding, population growth, ongoing economic uncertainty, and court decisions with substantial or long-term funding impacts.

In the past decade, inflation has increased by 39%. That means something that cost $100 in 2016 now costs $139. The rising costs for utilities, construction and materials, fuel, and other necessities are weakening the state's purchasing power and impacting the operating, capital, and transportation budgets.

Furthermore, between 2015 and 2025, the state's population increased by 14.2% – more than 1 million people. More people require state services as economic pressures hit individuals' and families' budgets, just as they impact the costs of doing business as a state.

OFM did not provide agencies specific or uniform reduction targets. However, given the anticipated shortfall for fiscal year 2028, and likelihood the shortfall will continue to grow as forecasts and mandatory maintenance level costs are updated, the expectation was that reduction options should be significant and ongoing. OFM requested that agencies, in addition to carefully reviewing base budget expenditures, specifically

consider:

- Programs created or expanded after January 1, 2019.
- Areas where Washington provides particularly high levels of service relative to other states or is one of only a handful of states that provides a specific service or program.
- Innovative proposals that reimagine service delivery in cost-effective ways.

Cost Savings/Revue Generating Options from Ecology:
Ecology has $69 million in GF-S appropriation at carryforward level (CFL) for 2027-29, representing about 8.8% of the state funding in our operating budget, and less than 0.1% of statewide GF-S appropriations. Approximately 90% of our GF-S is dedicated to protecting and managing the state's water resources, such as responding to drought emergencies, managing water rights, and ensuring compliance with water use regulations.

In response to OFM's direction, Ecology has identified several options that would generate ongoing cost savings and additional revenue for GF-S, along with several dedicated accounts, beginning July 1, 2027.

Option #1	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Eliminate PL-MJ HQ Emergency Generator and HVAC COP	GF-S	($254,000)	($254,000)
	Multiple	($1,199,000)	($1,199,000)
	FTE	-	-

Description: The 2016 Legislature authorized Ecology to make upgrades to the heating, ventilation, and air conditioning system (HVAC) and replace the emergency generator at its Headquarters Building in Lacey. A combination of one-time and ongoing funding was provided to pay debt service on the Certificates of Participation (COP) issued to finance this project.

Ecology made its final COP payment on this project on 6/2/2026. This adjustment will reduce the funding appropriated to support these payments from Ecology's operating budget on an ongoing basis, beginning July 1, 2027.

Option #2	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Eliminate CL-FLGA Fluorinated Gases	GF-S	($483,000)	$ -
	Other	$ -	$ -
	FTE	-	-

Description: GF-S appropriation, originally provided through fiscal year 2024 to implement a refrigerant management program, pursuant to Chapter 315, Laws of 2021 (E2SHB 1050), was reduced in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget because costs to implement the program shifted to a new dedicated account.

This reduction, which was intended to be ongoing according to the WinSum Outlook for the 2025-27 enacted operating budget, was inadvertently reserved at carryforward level (CFL) for 2027-29. This funding could be reduced on an ongoing basis, beginning July 1, 2027, without impacting Ecology operations or planned work.

Option #3	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Shift portion of hydrography and aquifer storage and recovery position from GF-S to Fund 296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account	GF-S	($89,000)	($89,000)
	Fund 296	$89,000	$89,000
	FTE	-	-

Description: This option would shift a portion (0.58 FTE) of a position in Ecology's Office of Columbia River from GF-S to Fund 296-1 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account. This position coordinates with Ecology's Water Quality Program on review of aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) projects, focusing on impacts to groundwater and surface water. This position communicates state groundwater quality standards and assesses adequacy of hydrogeologic data for groundwater compliance.

This shift would have no impact on Ecology operations but would result in GF-S savings for the state. The staff work that would be shifted is eligible to be funded under Fund 296, and there is sustainable fund balance capacity in the account to support this shift. The remainder of this position would stay funded by Fund 176-1 - Water Quality Permit Account.

Option #4	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Shift portion of YRBWEP/USBR Liaison position from GF-S to Fund 296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account	GF-S	($89,000)	($89,000)
	Fund 296	$89,000	$89,000
	FTE	-	-

Description: This option would shift a portion (0.58 FTE) of this position in Ecology's Office of Columbia River from GF-S to Fund 296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account. This position represents Ecology's interest in implementing the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Program (YRBWEP) and shares valuable insights with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) regarding Washington water law and water rights permitting and provides technical support on water resource management.

This shift would have no impact on Ecology operations but would result in GF-S savings for the state. The staff work that would be shifted is eligible to be funded under Fund 296, and there is sustainable fund balance capacity in the account to support this shift. The remainder of this position would stay funded by federal funding received through the USBR.

Option #5	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Use up to 3% of 2027-29 Streamflow Restoration Capital Project Request to support administration of the competitive streamflow restoration grant program	GF-S	($596,000)	($596,000)
	Other	$ -	$ -
	FTE	(3.8)	(3.8)

Description: In January 2018, the Legislature passed the Streamflow Restoration Act (Chapter 90.94 RCW) to help improve streamflows. The law directed 15 planning groups to develop watershed plans that offset impacts from new domestic permit-exempt wells and achieve a net ecological benefit. The law was in response to the Hirst Decision, a 2016 Washington State Supreme Court decision that limited a landowner's ability to get a building permit for a new home when the proposed source of water was a permit-exempt well.

In support of the Streamflow Restoration Act, the Legislature authorized $300 million to be appropriated over 15 years to support projects that help Tribal governments, public entities, and non-profit organizations implement local watershed plans and fund projects to improve streamflow and aquatic resources.

All Ecology staff that support implementation of the Act, including the competitive grant program, are currently funded with GF-S. This option would shift approximately 3.8 FTEs to the capital budget. Ecology's 2027-29 Streamflow Restoration Capital Project Request (CPR), which will be submitted to OFM by September 14, 2026, identifies that a portion of that request ($1.2 million of $40 million) will be used for administration of the competitive grant program.

Note: For this option to be implemented without a reduction to administration of the competitive capital grant program, Ecology's submitted CPR would need to be funded as requested.

Option #6	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Eliminate funding for PL- PY Lake Roosevelt Adjudication	GF-S	($1,083,000)	($1,082,000)
	Other	$ -	$ -
	FTE	(6.3)	(6.3)

Description: In 2019, the Colville Confederated Tribes petitioned Ecology under state law to use the state's court process for water right adjudication. A water right adjudication is the legal process to resolve conflict and competition on a water source. Adjudication determines whether each water right on a source is legal, how much water can be used, and its priority during shortages. A watershed-wide adjudication prioritizes each individual water right, including federal, Tribal, and instream flow rights, under Washington water law's "first-in-time, first-in-right" prior appropriation framework. When there is not enough water for everyone, those holding the oldest water rights have priority.

In 2022, Ecology entered into the pre-adjudication process, where we began preparing to file a water right adjudication in the Upper Columbia watershed (Lake Roosevelt and WRIA 58). To prepare, we engaged in mapping, identified water users, conducted outreach to affected parties, developed IT systems, and worked with local superior courts and the Attorney General's Office.

However, adjudications require significant state investment (Ecology and the Courts), and we must consider those costs, the benefits of clarity an adjudication provides, among other factors, when initiating an adjudication. Ecology has determined that initiating an adjudication in this area has legal risks for the state (the proposed area is vulnerable to a challenge of comprehensiveness under the McCarren Amendment, as there is not a clear water management challenge that we need to solve for at this time), and did not find that initiating a state-led adjudication is in the public interest at this time, which is a requirement for proceeding.

The decision not to proceed with a state-led adjudication was communicated with the Colville Tribes in June 2026, and this option would reduce the funding from GF-S that was originally appropriated in 2023-25 to support the adjudication efforts. The FTEs are vacant and this option does not impact any filled positions.

Option #7	Fund	Amount	
		FY 2028	FY 2029
Increase dam safety inspection fees	GF-S	$ -	$ -
	Other	$ -	$ -
	FTE	-	-

Description: Ecology conducts periodic inspections of existing dams located in areas where dam failure and release of the reservoir contents could result in the loss of life. The inspections are intended to identify deficiencies, reasonably assure safe operations, and confirm that maintenance is being adequately performed. Ecology charges nearly 440 dam owners dam inspection fees under a statutory requirement to recover the full cost of inspections. The current annual fee is $1,280 for dams with a high downstream hazard classification and $440 for dams with a significant downstream hazard classification.

These fees have not been adjusted since 2012, and Ecology is beginning rulemaking in 2026 to increase these fees early in 2027-29. This will more fully reflect the actual cost of conducting dam inspections, consistent with statute. We expect current fees will double as a result of the rulemaking, generating approximately $700,000 in additional revenue per biennium. Under current law, 80% of the revenue collected is deposited into GF-S, and 20% is deposited into Fund 10G - Water Rights Tracking System Account.

This option would not result in a reduction to GF-S appropriations, but once fees are updated beginning in 2027-29, **GF-S will receive $560,000 per biennium in additional revenue**.

There is no statutory change needed to execute this option, and Ecology expects the rulemaking process to be completed by early 2027-29 so the updated fees can be assessed.

Additional GF-S savings identified in PL-DD Well Construction and Licensing

In addition to the options above, Ecology also submitted a separate decision package, PL-DD Well Construction and Licensing, with accompanying agency request legislation that would result in additional savings to GF-S of $1.453 million per biennium, ongoing.

Ecology issues licenses and provides continuing education to well drillers; investigates complaints; approves variances from construction standards; and provides technical assistance to homeowners, well drillers, Tribes, and local governments. This work is accomplished in partnership with delegated counties. Ecology's Well Construction and Licensing Office is currently funded by both GF-S and Fund 027 - Reclamation Account.

PL-DD Well Construction and Licensing, which relies on passage of agency request legislation proposed by Ecology for the 2027 legislative session. The proposed legislation would update Chapter 18.104 RCW to address technological changes to well construction and drilling practices, provide efficiencies and reduce regulation for the well drilling industry, and modernize the fee structure that supports these activities. The proposed fee structure changes would increase fee revenue by approximately $1.47 million per biennium, beginning in 2027-29, and allow Ecology to shift the work of 3.5 FTEs from GF-S to Fund 027 - Reclamation Account.

Combined, the options provided in both PL-DD Well Construction and Licensing and this decision package would result in an ongoing 8.9% reduction to Ecology's GF-S funding level at CFL for 2027-29 and generate an estimated $560,000 in additional revenue for GF-S each biennium.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
Yes
See attached.

Impacts on Population Served:
The options provided in this decision package will deliver permanent GF-S savings and avoid Ecology having to make deeper cuts to core environmental and public health work, which will benefit all Washington residents, the state's natural resources, and our economy.

Alternatives Explored:
The alternatives to the options provided in this decision package would be fewer savings for the GF-S or deeper cuts to Ecology's core environmental and public health work if alternative GF-S reduction options were required by OFM.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:
If the options provided in this decision package are not implemented, Ecology would retain the GF-S we currently have at CFL for 2027-29 and continue to use the funding level made available to support core environmental and public health work being done across the state.

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Dam Safety Inspection Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate: The current annual fee is $1,280 for dams with a high downstream hazard classification and $440 for dams with a significant downstream hazard classification.

3. Proposed Rate:

FY 2028: High Downstream Hazard Classification - $2,560, Significant Downstream Hazard Classification - $880
FY 2029: No change from FY 2028

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

FY 2028: 100%
FY 2029: No Change from FY 2028

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

FY 2028: $350,000
FY 2029: $350,000

7. Justification:
Fees would be increased so that revenue received from inspections covers all costs associated with inspections, consistent with statutory direction. The fees have not been increased since 2012.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change - Dam owners continue to pay this cost.

9. Changes in Methodology: Fees would be increased so that revenue received from inspections covers all costs associated with inspections, consistent with statutory direction. The fees have not been increased since 2012.

10. RecSum Code: FF

11. Alternatives: Adjusting fees at a lower rate would take in less revenue and would continue to not meet statutory direction to cover all costs of inspections.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

The options provided in this decision package do not drive reductions to a current program or service:

- *Options #1 and #2* would return GF-S funding that is no longer needed by Ecology because the work is either completed or has already been shifted to an alternative fund source.
- *Options #3, #4, and #5* would only shift current Ecology work to alternative fund sources to achieve GF-S savings.
- *Option #6* would reduce funding that was available to support a state-led adjudication of water rights in the Upper Columbia watershed (Lake Roosevelt and WRIA 58), but the decision not to proceed with the work has already been made. This savings option does not drive that decision.
- *Option #7* would only increase revenue collections into GF-S and Fund 10G - Water Rights Tracking System Account resulting from rulemaking that will adjust safety inspection fees. That rulemaking will occur independent of this decision package.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

This decision package would achieve ongoing GF-S cost savings, beginning July 1, 2027, through both fund shifts and appropriation reductions.

- *Option #1 – Eliminate PL-MJ HQ Emergency Generator and HVAC COP* would reduce $2.906 million per biennium in appropriation authority across six fund sources on an ongoing basis. Costs are shown in object E: Good and Services. Amounts by fund source are as follows:
    - 001-1-General Fund-State - $508,000
    - 044-1-Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account - $90,000
    - 23P-1-Model Toxics Control Operating Account - $1.712 million
    - 176-1-Water Quality Permit Account - $436,000
    - 207-1-Hazardous Waste Assistance Account - $78,000
    - 217-1-Oil Spill Prevention Account - $82,000
- *Option #2 – Eliminate CL-FLGA Fluorinated Gases* would reduce $483,000 in GF-S per biennium on an ongoing basis. Costs are shown in object E: Good and Services.

- *Option #3 – Shift portion of hydrography and aquifer storage and recovery position (0.58 FTE) from GF-S to Fund 296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account* would shift staff costs across multiple objects between accounts.
- *Option #4 – Shift portion of YRBWEP/USBR Liaison position (0.58 FTE) from GF-S to Fund 296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account* would shift staff costs across multiple objects between accounts.
- *Option #5 – Use up to 3% of Ecology's 2027-29 Streamflow Restoration Capital Project Request to support administration of the competitive streamflow restoration grant program* would reduce $1.192 million in GF-S per biennium on an ongoing basis because staff supporting the completive capital grant program would be supported through the capital budget moving forward. Costs are shown in objects A, B, E, G, J, T.
- *Option #6 – Eliminate funding for PL- PY Lake Roosevelt Adjudication* would reduce $2,165,000 in GF-S per biennium because the state-led adjudication of water rights in the Upper Columbia watershed (Lake Roosevelt and WRIA 58) is not proceeding at this time. Costs are shown in objects A, B, E, G, J, T.
- *Option #7 – Increase dam safety inspection fees* would increase revenue collections into the GF-S and Fund 10G - Water Rights Tracking System Account resulting from rulemaking to increase fees in preparation for the 2027-29 biennium.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
A	Salaries and Wages	(861,094)	(861,094)	(861,094)	(861,094)	(861,094)	(861,094)
B	Employee Benefits	(269,522)	(269,522)	(269,522)	(269,522)	(269,522)	(269,522)
E	Goods and Services	(2,139,673)	(1,656,673)	(2,139,673)	(1,656,673)	(2,139,673)	(1,656,673)
G	Travel	(16,993)	(16,993)	(16,993)	(16,993)	(16,993)	(16,993)
J	Capital Outlays	(5,325)	(5,325)	(5,325)	(5,325)	(5,325)	(5,325)
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	(322,224)	(322,224)	(322,224)	(322,224)	(322,224)	(322,224)
	Total Objects	**(3,614,831)**	**(3,131,831)**	**(3,614,831)**	**(3,131,831)**	**(3,614,831)**	**(3,131,831)**

Staffing

Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 4	100,490	(3.30)	(3.30)	(3.30)	(3.30)	(3.30)	(3.30)
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 4	91,102	(4.00)	(4.00)	(4.00)	(4.00)	(4.00)	(4.00)
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 5	110,956	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)	(1.00)
HYDROGEOLOGIST 4	108,226	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.50)	(0.50)
FISCAL ANALYST 2		(0.88)	(0.88)	(0.88)	(0.88)	(0.88)	(0.88)
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		(0.44)	(0.44)	(0.44)	(0.44)	(0.44)	(0.44)
Total FTEs		**(10.12)**	**(10.12)**	**(10.12)**	**(10.12)**	**(10.12)**	**(10.12)**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Good and Services also includes the amounts for Eliminate PL-MJ HQ Emergency Generator and HVAC COP ($2,906,000) and Eliminate CL-FLGA Fluorinated Gases ($483,000 – in even numbered years). It includes amounts for Streamflow Shift ($10,000 per year) and PL-PY Lake Roosevelt Adjudication for AAG support ($145,000 per year).
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

See tables above in Decision Package Description section.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Ecology's Goals
The options provided in this decision package will not have a material impact on Ecology's strategic goals. They deliver GF-S savings and enable Ecology to avoid having to make deeper cuts to core environmental and public health work being done across the state.

Performance Outcomes:

The outcome of this decision package will be GF-S savings and the ability to maintain core environmental and public health work, which benefits all Washington residents, the state's natural resources, and our economy.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A

Target Communities and Populations:

N/A

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

N/A

Stakeholder Impacts:

N/A

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

2027-29 Cost Savings Options-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf
2027-29 Cost Savings Options-Historical Funding Attachment.xlsx

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	($861)	($861)	**($1,722)**	($861)	($861)	**($1,722)**
Obj. B	($270)	($270)	**($540)**	($270)	($270)	**($540)**
Obj. E	($2,139)	($1,656)	**($3,795)**	($2,139)	($1,656)	**($3,795)**
Obj. G	($17)	($17)	**($34)**	($17)	($17)	**($34)**
Obj. J	($5)	($5)	**($10)**	($5)	($5)	**($10)**
Obj. T	($322)	($322)	**($644)**	($322)	($322)	**($644)**

Agency Contact Information

Garret Ward
(360) 789-7938
gwar461@ecy.wa.gov

DP ATTACHMENT - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25	PL-PY Lake Roosevelt Adjudication	Funding is provided to conduct a general adjudica on of surface and groundwater rights in the area of Lake Roosevelt and its Middle Tributaries.	001-1	Custom	$1,536,000

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

6. If the decision package i associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

Department of Ecology

2027-29 Regular Budget Session

Maintenance Level - FB - Zero Emission School Bus Program

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program provides pass-through grants to Washington school districts and school bus owners to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and protect people from harmful diesel pollution. The program's primary purpose is to replace diesel and fossil-fueled school buses with zero-emission school buses. Ecology received the first appropriation for this grant program in the 2021-23 biennium capital budget. Most recently, we received funding for this program in the 2025-27 biennium in both the capital and transportation budgets. Ecology expects to obligate all available funds before the end of the 2025-27 biennium, however, we will not be able to fully spend these funds before the start of the 2027-29 biennium, because zero-emission school buses typically take about 12 months to manufacture and deliver. Ecology requests reappropriation of unspent funds, so school bus owners who have received a grant award have enough time to receive their buses, complete testing, and place them into service. This request is related to implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda and broadly implementing the Governor's Salmon Strategy. (Model Toxics Control Capital Account, Climate Commitment Act Transportation Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.2	1.2	**1.2**	0.0	0.0	**0.0**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 23N - 1	$4,800	$4,800	**$9,600**	$0	$0	**$0**
Fund 26A - 1	$11,200	$11,200	**$22,400**	$0	$0	**$0**
Total Expenditures	**$16,000**	**$16,000**	**$32,000**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**

Decision Package Description

Background:

In 2024, the Legislature codified RCW 70A.15.4200, directing Ecology to administer the Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program. The program provides grants to replace fossil-fueled and diesel school buses with zero-emission electric buses, develop charging infrastructure, and support workforce training for zero-emission school buses. Ecology prioritizes projects that replace the oldest diesel buses and serve overburdened communities and other sensitive populations.

To implement RCW 70A.15.4200, the Legislature provided $39 million in the 2024 supplemental transportation budget (sec. 108) for grants to school districts to transition to zero-emission buses and build necessary fueling infrastructure. Ecology must prioritize districts serving Tribes and vulnerable populations in overburdened communities as defined in RCW 70A.02.010. Demand for the program has remained high over the years. As a result, the Legislature appropriated an additional $15 million in the 2025-27 transportation budget. Ecology expects to obligate all appropriated funding by the end of the biennium, but we do not expect to spend all the funds until the 2027-29 biennium.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?

See Attachment A - Related Budget Items Funded in the Prior and/or Current Biennia (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Problem/Opportunity:

Diesel exhaust is the state's most harmful toxic air pollutant. The International Agency for Research on Cancer has classified diesel engine exhaust as carcinogenic to humans (https://www.iarc.who.int/news-events/iarc-diesel-engine-exhaust-carcinogenic). Diesel exhaust contains fine particles, carcinogens, black carbon, nitrogen oxides, and carbon dioxide. Exposure to these pollutants increases the risk of heart and lung disease, asthma, and some cancers.

Fine particles and the toxic chemicals they carry can settle to the ground in rain and dust, enter stormwater, and ultimately reach rivers, lakes, and Puget Sound, where they can harm aquatic ecosystems. Nitrogen oxides also react with other pollutants in sunlight to form ground-level ozone, which is linked to serious respiratory illnesses, including asthma. Carbon dioxide and black carbon contribute to Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions, that accelerate climate change.

Of the approximately 10,400 school buses operating in Washington, about 1,900 diesel buses do not meet EPA's 2010 nitrogen oxide (NOX)

emissions standards, and about 1,000 do not meet EPA's 2007 diesel particulate matter emissions standards.

Largely through Ecology's grant program—supported by the capital and transportation budgets as well as other funding sources—more than 240 zero-emission school buses will be on the road in Washington during the 2026-27 school year. While this is a significant milestone, only about 2% of the state's school bus fleet is electric. Investment is needed to continue replacing the oldest and most polluting diesel buses.

Proposed Solution:

This reappropriation request is for funds supporting Ecology's Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program. This grant program helps school districts by providing funding to replace fossil-fueled buses with zero-emission and supporting necessary associated costs like charging infrastructure and training. This funding addresses the upfront cost difference between fossil-fueled and zero-emission buses. It will also support a smoother statewide transition to zero-emission fleets. Electric buses have lower maintenance costs than diesel buses, reducing long-term transportation operating expenses for school districts.

Depending on the size and type of bus, a zero-emission school bus costs approximately $230,000 to $330,000 more than a comparable diesel bus, not including the associated charging infrastructure. Without grant funding, transitioning Washington's school bus fleet would place a significant financial burden on school districts. Completing this transition will require sustained investment over multiple biennia.

Washington has adopted aggressive goals for reducing GHGs, including reducing emissions to 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. Transportation is the state's largest source of climate pollution, accounting for over 40% of all greenhouse gas emissions (Washington State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory: 1990-2022, https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2614030.html). Electrifying on-road transportation, which produces about 23% of Washington's total GHG emissions, is one of the state's most important opportunities to reduce climate pollution.

This reappropriation request will support grants that will:

- Reduce public exposure to harmful diesel pollution and carcinogens.
- Reduce GHGs.
- Improve air quality for children and other sensitive populations.
- Reduce disproportionate pollution impacts in overburdened communities.
- Lower transportation operating costs for school districts.
- Protect rivers, streams, lakes, and Puget Sound by reducing pollutant deposition.
- Reduce fuel use and vehicle maintenance costs.

Impacts on Population Served:

Reappropriating this funding will allow grant recipients to complete their purchases and receive the zero-emission buses, which will reduce diesel emissions and improve public health, especially in overburdened communities. This reappropriated funding will result in an estimated lifetime reduction of 3.8 tons of diesel particulate, in alignment with Ecology's Performance Measures (A047, 1007). People living near major highways and transportation corridors are exposed to higher levels of air pollution and are more likely to experience related health conditions (https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/air-quality/outdoor-air). Children who ride school buses are also regularly exposed to diesel exhaust and are especially vulnerable to its harmful health effects. By helping school districts and other school bus owners replace diesel buses with zero-emission electric buses, this program will reduce children's exposure to harmful air pollution and lower the risk of asthma and other respiratory illnesses (https://electricschoolbusinitiative.org/diesel-exhaust-pollution-can-impact-academic-performance-electric-schools-buses-provide-alternative).

Reducing children's and other sensitive populations' exposure to diesel emissions is a priority in both urban and rural communities. Ecology has made an initial investment to help school districts purchase zero-emission school buses. Reappropriating these funds will allow districts to complete projects already underway, evaluate the performance and operating costs of electric buses, and plan future fleet electrification.

Alternatives Explored:

Although zero-emission school buses cost more upfront than comparable diesel models, they are the only technology that eliminates both GHG

emissions and diesel exhaust during operation. Other alternative fuels can reduce emissions but do not provide the same combination of climate, air quality, and public health benefits.

This grant program helps offset the higher upfront cost of zero-emission school buses, allowing school bus fleets to transition to zero-emission school buses sooner than they otherwise could. Accelerating these replacements will reduce emissions more quickly, help school districts begin the transition to zero-emission fleets and lower long-term fuel and maintenance costs.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

If this reappropriation request is not funded:

- Ecology would be unable to honor existing grant agreements for funds that have already been obligated.
- Without an affordable electric alternative, districts would continue purchasing new diesel buses, locking in another 15 years of toxic emissions and GHGs. This would continue exposing thousands of children, who breathe roughly 50% more air per pound of body weight than adults, to harmful pollutants (https://www.epa.gov/iaq-schools/reference-guide-indoor-air-quality-schools).Ecology's ability to support state policies and initiatives that reduce GHG emissions and improve air quality and public health, particularly in overburdened communities and for vulnerable populations, would be limited. In 2020, the Washington Legislature revised the state's long-term GHG emission reduction limit to 95% below 1990 levels by 2050.
- High-polluting diesel school buses would remain in service longer, increasing exposure to harmful diesel emissions for people living in overburdened communities and other vulnerable populations.
- Under a no-action scenario, Washington would face increasing costs from healthcare, energy demand, storm damage, coastal erosion, wildfires, drought, and other climate-driven impacts.
- Research from the University of Washington indicates residents will be increasingly vulnerable to extreme heat due to climate change, aging demographics, and urbanization. Climate models project average summer temperatures to rise 4–6°F by the 2050s, with extreme heat days increasing fivefold (https://digital.lib.washington.edu/researchworks/handle/1773/50051?show=full).

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This reappropriation request will not expand, reduce, eliminate, or alter an existing program or service. The requested reappropriation of $32 million aligns the budget with updated project completion timelines and vehicle and equipment delivery schedules. It does not change the scope or total cost of the approved projects. The reappropriation amount is based on updated project schedules and reflects both the estimated expenditures that will occur during the 2025-27 biennium and the amount expected to be payable in the 2027-29 biennium.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

1.0 FTE is included for program financial management grant support of the program. The remainder of this reappropriation request will be used for pass-through grants to Washington school districts to fund the replacement of fossil fuel buses with zero-emission buses.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
A	Salaries and Wages	91,102	91,102				
B	Employee Benefits	28,515	28,515				
E	Goods and Services	5,531	5,531				
G	Travel	1,931	1,931				
J	Capital Outlays	605	605				
N	Grants, Benefits, and Client Services	15,837,807	15,837,807				
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	34,509	34,509				
	Total Objects	**16,000,000**	**16,000,000**	**0**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Staffing

Job Class	Salary	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 4	91,102	1.00	1.00				
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.10	0.10				
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		0.05	0.05				
Total FTEs		**1.15**	**1.15**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Grants are funding provided to Washington school districts for replacement of fossil fuel buses with zero-emission buses.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	FY2029
FTE (xx direct FTE)	0.0	0.0
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals

This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Support and Engage Our Communities, Customers, and Employees
Objective 1.1: Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services

This request will reduce environmental and health disparities and harm and enhance environmental justice and equity by providing funding to support communities disproportionately impacted by toxic diesel emissions.

Goal 2: Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts
Objective 2.1: Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits

This request will replace fossil fuel powered vehicles and equipment with zero-emission equipment and reduce fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, such as black carbon and carbon dioxide, that contribute to atmospheric warming and climate change.

Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution
Objective 3.3: Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will replace older high-polluting vehicles and equipment with new zero-emission equipment that will reduce toxic diesel emissions that include cancer-causing fine particulates and poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

Goal 4: Protect and Manage our State's Waters
Objective 4.2: Improve and protect the quality of Washington Waters

This request will reduce pollutants emitted into the air that can be deposited onto surfaces that impact stormwater and runoff into Puget Sound and other water bodies.

Protecting our state's waters also supports efforts under the Governor's Executive Order 18-02, Southern Resident Orca Recovery and Task Force.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget

This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – This request will reduce GHG emissions and toxic air pollution, improving environmental conditions for communities across the state.

Education and Workforce – This request will support training for school bus mechanics, drivers, and support staff to operate and maintain zero-emission buses.

Infrastructure – This request will fund charging and other zero-emission fueling infrastructure needed to support the transition to zero-emission transportation.

Performance Outcomes:

In 2020, the Washington Legislature strengthened the state's long-term GHG emissions target to 95% below 1990 levels by 2050. Replacing older high-polluting diesel vehicles and equipment with zero-emission alternatives will help the state meet these statutory emission limits.

This program will also improve public health by reducing exposure to diesel pollution in communities across Washington. Lower emissions of fine particles and other toxic pollutants can reduce illness, lower health care costs, and decrease premature deaths (https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2502039.html).

This request will prioritize grant funding for projects that benefit overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, particularly in transportation corridors with high levels of diesel pollution. These investments will reduce environmental harm, improve community health, and increase resilience.

Ecology has administered a Diesel Reduction Program using capital budget and other sources of funding for more than 20 years. The program has established technical expertise, strong partnerships, and efficient grant management processes that enable funding to be awarded and implemented effectively.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

In 2025, Ecology engaged with the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), school districts, previous grant recipients, school bus distributors, and electric utilities. Participants identified several key needs:

- Training for school district staff to operate and maintain zero-emission school buses.
- Additional funding for charging infrastructure, which can vary significantly in cost.
- More technical assistance for charging infrastructure planning.

This feedback aligns with the grant program established in statute and informed Ecology's funding levels and program priorities. Ecology also worked with OSPI's Native Education Department to develop a project prioritization approach for grants serving Tribes. This approach has been incorporated into the 2025-27 funding opportunity and has increased Tribal interest in the program. Ecology is also developing updated consultation and engagement guidelines to implement the Governors Executive Order 25-10 on Tribal sovereignty. The proposed school bus grants will follow these guidelines and build on Ecology's established relationships with Tribes affected by elevated air pollution.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This reappropriation request will reduce diesel emissions and improve air quality, particularly in communities that experience the highest exposure to diesel pollution. Communities located near major highways and road networks are more likely to include low-income households and residents with health conditions that increase their vulnerability to air pollution (https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/air-quality/outdoor-air). They also experience higher levels of diesel exhaust than many other communities. Children who ride diesel school buses are exposed to diesel exhaust during their daily commute. Because children are especially vulnerable to the health effects of air pollution, replacing diesel buses with zero-emission buses can help reduce asthma and other respiratory illnesses and improve the daily environment for students across Washington (https://electricschoolbusinitiative.org/diesel-exhaust-pollution-can-impact-academic-performance-electric-schools-buses-provide-alternative).

Target Communities and Populations:

This reappropriation request will continue prioritizing projects that provide direct environmental and public health benefits to vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. Grant funding will benefit K-12 students, school bus drivers and staff, other diesel fleet operators, and people living in areas with high exposure to diesel exhaust. Ecology will continue to prioritize funding for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations. For zero-emission school bus grants, priority is based on factors such as state free and reduced-price lunch program eligibility data, rural and low-income school district status, and projects that serve Tribes and State-Tribal Education Compact (STECs) schools.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

This request will support the 2026-2030 Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation through the following Strategies and Actions: Human Health 03.02 through 03.04.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

This request will benefit school districts by reappropriating funds to replace diesel school buses with zero-emission school buses. The funding will also support workforce training for zero-emission vehicles and expand investments in school bus charging infrastructure. Grant funding will prioritize projects in areas with high exposure to diesel pollution and elevated health risks, including communities where thousands of children ride school buses each year. It will help school districts and local governments with limited financial resources transition to cleaner vehicles and equipment and reduce fuel and maintenance costs over time.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Ecology conducted stakeholder outreach to inform the design of the Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program, which included non-governmental stakeholders impacted by the program. Ecology discussed the program with school bus distributors and public and investor-owned utilities and has received input from contracted bus service providers (e.g., First Student and Zum). All the stakeholders indicated support for the grant program and provided feedback based on their interactions with Ecology's and other school bus grant programs. Ecology does not anticipate opposition to the Zero Emission School Bus Grant Program.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

This reappropriation request will support Ecology's implementation of RCW 70A.15.4200 and the intent of the proviso in the 2025 transportation budget bill, ESSB 5161.

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

This request broadly implements the following actions in the Governor's Salmon Strategy:

Action 1 - Protect and restore vital salmon habitat, and Action: 4b - Reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, expand carbon sequestration programs, and improve habitat conditions, because replacing diesel school buses with zero-emissions school buses is essential to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and achieving the state's 2050 greenhouse gas limits.

Reference Documents

Zero Emission School Bus Program-Attachment A.xlsx

Zero Emission School Bus Program-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$91	$91	**$182**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. B	$28	$28	**$56**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. E	$5	$5	**$10**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. G	$2	$2	**$4**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. J	$1	$1	**$2**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. N	$15,838	$15,838	**$31,676**	$0	$0	**$0**
Obj. T	$35	$35	**$70**	$0	$0	**$0**

Agency Contact Information

Kathy Taylor
(360) 584-5104
kathy.taylor@ecy.wa.gov

ATTACHMENT A - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25 biennium (2024 supplemental transportation budget)	Sec. 108: ESBP - Electric School Bus Program	Funding for Ecology to provide grants to school districts to transition from diesel school buses and other student transport vehicles to zero emission vehicles and for the necessary fueling infrastructure needed for zero emission student transportation. Ecology must prioritize school districts serving tribes and vulnerable populations in overburdened communities as defined under RCW 70A.02.010.	23P-1, 26A-1	One-Time	$19,715,000
2025-27 biennium transportation budget	Sec. 112: EBUS - Electric School Buses (reapprop)	Funding for Ecology to provide grants to school districts to transition from diesel school buses and other student transport vehicles to zero emission vehicles and for the necessary fueling infrastructure needed for zero emission student transportation. Ecology must prioritize school districts serving tribes and vulnerable populations in overburdened communities as defined under RCW 70A.02.010.	23P-1, 26A-1	One-Time	$39,055,000
2025-27 biennium transportation budget	Sec. 112: ABUS - Additional Electric School Buses	Funding for Ecology to provide grants to school districts to transition from diesel school buses and other student transport vehicles to zero emission vehicles and for the necessary fueling infrastructure needed for zero emission student transportation. Ecology must prioritize school districts serving tribes and vulnerable populations in overburdened communities as defined under RCW 70A.02.010.	26A-1	One-Time	$15,000,000

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.

- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the

associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

This transportation budget reappropriation request will reduce diesel emissions and improve air quality, particularly in communities that experience the highest exposure to diesel pollution. Communities located near major highways and road networks are more likely to include low-income households and residents with health conditions that increase their vulnerability to air pollution (https://doh.wa.gov/community-and-environment/air-quality/outdoor-air). They also experience higher levels of diesel exhaust than many other communities.

Children who ride diesel school buses are also exposed to diesel exhaust during their daily commute. Because children are especially vulnerable to the health effects of air pollution, replacing diesel buses with zero-emission buses can help reduce asthma and other respiratory illnesses while improving the daily environment for students across Washington (https://electricschoolbusinitiative.org/diesel-exhaust-pollution-can-impact-academic-performance-electric-schools-buses-provide-alternative).

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   In the autumn of 2025, Ecology conducted outreach to inform the development of the 2026 zero-emission school bus grant program. This effort engaged with partners including the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), other state agencies, bus distributors, and school districts, including those serving overburdened communities and vulnerable populations. Several consistent themes from the outreach emerged, including:

   - **Consistent funding is needed to support districts electrifying their fleets;**
   - **Funding is needed to train district staff and support infrastructure improvements;**
   - **Additional support is needed for project planning and implementation.**

   This feedback was addressed, to the best of Ecology's ability, in the 2026 grant program which will award projects in autumn of 2026 with funding from this reappropriation request.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

Goal 1: Support and Engage Our Communities, Customers, and Employees; and Objective 1.1: Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services: This reappropriation request will achieve these goals by reducing environmental and health disparities and harm, and enhancing environmental justice and equity by providing funding to support communities disproportionately impacted by toxic diesel emissions.

Goal 2: Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts; and Objective 2: Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits: This reappropriation request will achieve these goals by replacing fossil fuel powered vehicles and equipment with zero emission equipment, and reducing fuel use and greenhouse gas emissions, such as black carbon and carbon dioxide, that contribute to atmospheric warming and climate change.

Goal 3: Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution; and Objective 3.3: Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination: This reappropriation request will achieve these goals because replacing older high polluting vehicles and equipment with new zero emission equipment will reduce toxic diesel emissions that include cancer-causing fine particulates and poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   This reappropriation request does not specifically fund community engagement. All outreach and engagement efforts will be conducted in alignment with the Community Engagement Plan (required by RCW 70A.02.050) to ensure future programs address barriers identified by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   Ecology engaged with OSPI's Native Education Department to develop a prioritization system for zero-emission school bus projects serving Tribes. This prioritization is reflected in the 2025-27 funding opportunity and has generated more Tribal interest in the program. In the 2023-25 biennium, the Quileute Tribal School (a State-Tribal Education Compact school) was awarded funding for a zero-emission school bus and has since received their new bus. Ecology worked closely with the school to implement the project.

Ecology is in the process of developing an updated set of consultation and engagement guidelines towards implementation of the Governors Executive Order 25-10 regarding Tribal sovereignty. This reappropriation request would adhere to these guidelines and build off the Air Quality program's growing relationships with Tribes impacted by elevated air pollution levels.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   An Environmental Justice Assessment was not completed because this transportation budget reappropriation request does not include a significant agency action as specified in RCW 70A.02.010(12).

2027-29 Biennial Budget: Planned OFM Maintenance Level (ML) Adjustments for Ecology

Purpose: Provide a summary of planned Maintenance Level (ML) adjustments identified by Ecology, which the Office of Financial Management (OFM) plans to include in the Governor's proposed 2027-29 biennial budget.

September 2026

$ in thousands

							Adjustment Needed								
							2027-29 Operating Budget				2029-31 Carryforward Level				
Program	Initial Budget	Type	Duration	Rec Sum	Title	Fund Source	FY28 $	FY29 $	FY28 FTEs	FY29 FTEs	FY30 $	FY31 $	FY30 FTEs	FY31 FTEs	Description
HWTR	2023-25	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-PE01	TurboPlan System Upgrade	207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	$ (332)	$ (332)	-0.50	-0.50	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	Per Ecology 2023-25 decision package (DP), the funding level associated with this budget item decreases in 2027-29. Funding was initially provided to modernize Ecology's TurboPlan IT reporting system, which enables more than 500 Washington businesses and organizations to submit pollution prevention plans, as required under RCW 70A.214.110. The contracted work associated with this effort will be completed by the end of 2025-27, and Ecology will move into an operations and maintenance phase of supporting the system starting next biennium. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with what is needed to maintain the modernized system on an ongoing basis. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SEA	2023-25	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-CPC1	Local Government Climate Planning	26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	$ (95)	$ -	0.00	0.00	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after carry-forward level (CFL) with the final fiscal note for HB 1181 (2023), which required updates to the Growth Management Act to include considerations for climate change. The bill directed Ecology to update its Shoreline Master Program (SMP) guidelines so that local governments must now address sea level rise and increased storm severity. Ecology will complete rulemaking by the end of 2025-27, and then, beginning in 2027-29, local governments will be required to incorporate these new climate-related rules into their SMPs, with dozens of jurisdictions facing complex updates through 2033. This adjustment will provide the funding and staff resources needed for Ecology to support local governments by reviewing sea-level-rise vulnerability assessments, providing technical guidance, assisting with SMP amendment development, conducting Tribal notification and coordination, and evaluating local jurisdictions' SMP updates for consistency with statute and rule. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SPILLS	2023-25	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-PS	Tug Escort Environmental Assessment	23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating Account	$ (89)	$ -	-0.60	0.00	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	HB 1578 (2019) directed the Board of Pilot Commissioners, in consultation with Ecology, to adopt rules for tug escorts by December 31, 2025. To support this rulemaking, funding was provided to Ecology for three years to conduct an environmental assessment of the impacts of tug escort requirements, as required under the State Environmental Policy Act. With this work now completed, this adjustment will remove the funding from Ecology's operating budget on an ongoing basis, beginning in 2027-29, consistent with our 2023-25 DP. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
CPR	2024 Supplemental	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-6058	Carbon Market Linkage	26B-1 Climate Investment Account	$ (1,966)	$ (1,966)	-7.20	-3.40	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 6058 (2024), which pertained to linking our carbon market with California's and Quebec's markets. Funding was initially provided, beginning in fiscal year 2025, for rulemaking, the creation of a new greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reporting platform, and to update the cap-and-invest database (CAID). Both the rulemaking and IT development work will be completed by the end of 2025-27, and beginning next biennium, Ecology will move into an operations and maintenance phase of supporting those systems. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with what is needed to maintain the two IT systems and complete associated GHG reporting requirements on an ongoing basis. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SEA	2024 Supplemental	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-6039	Geothermal Energy Resource	26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	$ (1,070)	$ -	0.00	0.00	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 6039 (2024), which pertained to incentivizing geothermal exploration for potential use as a source of clean energy. The bill required Ecology, alongside the Departments of Commerce, Natural Resources (DNR), Fish and Wildlife, and Archaeology and Historic Preservation, to evaluate opportunities and risks associated with developing geothermal energy resources at three high-potential locations identified by DNR. Ecology had to conduct this assessment through consultation with Tribes, local governments, research institutions, environmental organizations, and electricity-sector participants, following each Tribe's specific communication protocols. This work is scheduled to be completed in 2025-27, and this adjustment will remove the funding from Ecology's operating budget on an ongoing basis, beginning in 2027-29. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
AQP	2025-27	Op - ML	Ongoing	PL-BK	Air Quality Industrial Inspectors	216-1 Air Pollution Control Account	$ 139	$ 139	1.20	1.20	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	Per Ecology 2025-27 DP, the funding level associated with this budget item increases in 2027-29. Ecology received funding, beginning this biennium, for additional industrial inspectors to monitor industrial facilities located across Central and Eastern Washington and ensure compliance with state and federal air quality regulations and permit. However, because this work is fee supported, Ecology chose to phase in the additional inspectors (and therefore the fee increases) over several years, starting with two new inspectors in 2025-27, and then adding a third inspector in 2027-29. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with what is needed to meet inspection targets, improve compliance, protect air quality and public health, and ensure consistent application of pollution reduction strategies in overburdened communities highly impacted by air pollution. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**

$ in thousands

							Adjustment Needed								
							2027-29 Operating Budget				2029-31 Carryforward Level				
Program	Initial Budget	Type	Duration	Rec Sum	Title	Fund Source	FY28 $	FY29 $	FY28 FTEs	FY29 FTEs	FY30 $	FY31 $	FY30 FTEs	FY31 FTEs	Description
CPR	2025-27	Op - ML	Custom	PL-HFCS	Hydrofluorocarbons	26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	$ 541	$ 541	3.70	3.70	$ 586	$ 587	5.60	5.60	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for HB 1462 (2025), which required Ecology to adopt rules and limits on newly produced hydrofluorocarbons. The bill also required Ecology to establish a Refrigerant Transition Task Force to study and make recommendations on the transition to low and ultra-low global warming potential alternative refrigerants by 2035. Ecology must submit a report to the Legislature, no later than December 1, 2027, on the findings and recommendations of the task force. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with the resources needed to (1) submit a report to the Legislature, (2) conduct rulemaking in fiscal years 2028, 2029, and 2030 to adopt those recommendations, and then (3) implement the new regulations. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SWM	2025-27	Op - ML	Custom	PL-5033	Biosolids/PFAS Chemicals	23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating Account	$ 73	$ 73	0.50	0.50	$ (91)	$ (91)	-0.60	-0.60	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 5033 (2025), which requires Ecology to submit a report to Legislature by December 1, 2029, that summarizes an analysis of PFAS levels in biosolids. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with the resources needed to provide technical support to facilities in fiscal year 2028, and collect, compile, analyze, and summarize the analysis for the report. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SWM	2025-27	Op - ML	Custom	PL-5284	Solid Waste Management	30C-6 Responsible Recycling Management Account	$ 163	$ 163	0.00	0.00	$ (773)	$ (773)	-1.80	-1.80	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 5175 (2025), which created an Extended Producer Responsibility program for Packaging and Paper Products (Packaging EPR). This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level in Fund 30C-1, beginning in 2027-29, with the resources needed to provide oversight of the Packaging ERP and expand recycling and reuse targets and minimum recycled content standards. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
SWM	2025-27	Op - ML	One-time	NA - SB 5175	Photovoltaic Modules	044-1 Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	$ 671	$ 103	1.80	0.70	$ (671)	$ (103)	-1.80	-0.70	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 5175 (2025), which requires Ecology to (1) establish a photovoltaic module advisory committee, consisting of various stakeholders, (2) contract with an independent third-party consultant to convene, facilitate, support, and provide research for the advisory committee, and (3) submit a report to Legislature by December 1, 2028, summarizing the work of the consultant and the advisory committee in recommending ways to recycle photovoltaic modules, minimize hazardous waste, and recovery of commercially viable materials. Because the work to convene the advisory committee and complete the report will occur in fiscal years 2028 and 2029, no funding was provided in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget to support those efforts. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level, beginning in 2027-29, with the resources needed to complete this work, including the contracting, coordination, data acquisition, communications, and administrative support necessary to run the advisory process. Responses to OFM's questions can be viewed in the "SB 5175 Q&A" tab. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
CPR	2026 Supplemental	Op - ML	Custom	PL-6246	Emissions/Trade-Exposed	26B-1 Climate Investment Account	$ 153	$ 153	0.60	0.60	$ (244)	$ (245)	-1.00	-1.00	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for SB 6246 (2026), which requires Ecology to develop and publish guidance by 2027 and oversee new reporting and decarbonization planning requirements for emissions-intensive, trade-exposed (EITE) facilities, including reviewing detailed emissions-reduction assessments every four years. Additionally, Ecology must undertake a complex multi-year rulemaking (2029–2031) to codify reporting, verification, and decarbonization planning requirements. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 with the resources needed to complete this work. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
CPR	2026 Supplemental	Op - ML	Custom	PL-FCCA	Fuels/CCA	26B-1 Climate Investment Account	$ 139	$ 167	1.40	1.40	$ (242)	$ (242)	-1.70	-1.70	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for HB 2215 (2026), which requires Ecology to conduct rulemaking, reporting, and provide technical assistance to an increased number of entities covered under the Climate Commitment Act (CCA). In the past, only fuel suppliers selling fuel equivalent to at least 25,000 metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent were subject to CCA compliance obligations. This bill lowered the coverage threshold, increasing the number of smaller entities that are now required to report GHG emissions, go through third-party verification, and register and maintain compliance in the cap-and-invest allowance market. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 with the resources needed to complete rulemaking and provide additional technical assistance and educational support to new fuel suppliers now covered under the CCA. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
CPR	2026 Supplemental	Op - ML	Custom	PL-WTEF	Waste to Energy Facilities	26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	$ 56	$ 58	0.40	0.40	$ (120)	$ (120)	-0.80	-0.80	This adjustment aligns Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 after CFL with the final fiscal note for HB 2416 (2026), which modified requirements under the CCA for GHG emissions associated with a waste-to-energy facility (WTE). Under the bill, Ecology is required to allocate no-cost allowances to the WTE facility through 2030, and conduct rulemaking to establish the new allowance allocation and consignment structure. It also requires Ecology to review WTE-submitted GHG reduction and waste-reduction plans, in coordination with the Department of Commerce. This adjustment will align Ecology's funding level for 2027-29 with the resources needed to complete rulemaking, provide guidance, consult with local advisory groups, and oversee implementation steps the facility takes toward meeting its emissions-reduction goals. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**

$ in thousands

							Adjustment Needed								
							2027-29 Operating Budget				2029-31 Carryforward Level				
Program	Initial Budget	Type	Duration	Rec Sum	Title	Fund Source	FY28 $	FY29 $	FY28 FTEs	FY29 FTEs	FY30 $	FY31 $	FY30 FTEs	FY31 FTEs	Description
AQP / Admin	Other	Op - ML	Ongoing	N/A - GF-P/L Authority Needed	Bridge Point Settlement	001-7-General Fund Private/Local	$ 4,318	$ 4,319	3.50	3.50	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	In 2025, Ecology received settlement funding from developers of a large warehouse facility in South Tacoma to reduce air quality impacts on nearby communities. Ecology is using these funds to establish a healthy indoor air program to provide improvements to residences and install an air monitoring station in the areas most impacted by the warehouse's operations. General Fund-Private/Local expenditure authority provided in the 2025-27 enacted operating budget was intended to be ongoing until the settlement funds were entirely spent out. However, the expenditure authority was inadvertently removed at CFL for 2027-29. This adjustment will provide the expenditure authority needed in 2027-29 to continue spending these funds, consistent with the terms of the settlement. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
CPR	Other	Op - ML	One-time	N/A - GF-P/L Authority Needed	Climate Alliance Grant	001-7-General Fund Private/Local	$ 138	$ 138	1.20	1.20	$ (138)	$ (138)	-1.20	-1.20	In April 2026, Ecology applied for a grant through the U.S. Climate Alliance to support a two-year project position on Ecology's climate communications team that could help scale up our storytelling about Washington's climate successes. The position's work will span all of Washington's major climate policies—including the CCA, the Clean Fuel Standard, the Clean Energy Transformation Act, and zero-emission vehicle standards—and help to promote stronger public confidence in and understanding of these policies through the development of web analytics, engagement metrics, and media uptake. This adjustment will provide the General Fund-Private/Local expenditure authority needed in 2027-29 to spend these grant funds, should Ecology receive the award. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**
NWP	Other	Op - ML	Ongoing	N/A - GF-P/L Authority Needed	Hanford Site - U.S. Ecology Sublease	001-7-General Fund Private/Local	$ 15	$ 15	0.00	0.00	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	Ecology subleases land at the Hanford Site to U.S. Ecology. Per that agreement, all rent (revenue) paid by U.S. Ecology, minus Ecology's own lease payment to U.S. Department of Energy (expenditure), must be provided to Benton County Treasurer. Furthermore, the agreement between Ecology and U.S. Ecology states that the rent must be adjusted every three years, on January 1st, utilizing the Consumer Price Index. This adjustment will provide the General Fund-Private/Local expenditure authority needed, beginning in 2027-29, to pass through rent revenue billed to and collected from U.S. Ecology that is required to be provided to Benton County. **OFM ML adjustment. No DP submitted for 2027-29.**

Totals	**$ 2,854**	**$ 3,571**	**6.00**	**9.30**	**$ (1,693)**	**$ (1,125)**	**-3.30**	**-2.20**
001-1 General Fund-State	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00	$ -	$ -	0.00	0.00
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating Account	$ (16)	$ 73	-0.10	0.50	$ (91)	$ (91)	-0.60	-0.60
26B-1 Climate Investment Account	$ (1,674)	$ (1,646)	-5.20	-1.40	$ (486)	$ (487)	-2.70	-2.70
26C-1 Climate Commitment Account	$ (568)	$ 599	4.10	4.10	$ 466	$ 467	4.80	4.80
Other Accounts	$ 5,112	$ 4,545	7.20	6.10	$ (1,582)	$ (1,014)	-4.80	-3.70

Note: Per HB 2251 (2026), effective July 1, 2027, 26B-1 Climate Investment Account and 26C-1 Climate Commitment Account will be repealed and replaced by 30P-1 Climate Commitment Act Operating Account.

2027-29 Biennial Budget: Planned OFM Maintenance Level (ML) Adjustments for Ecology - ADDITIONAL DETAIL

SB 5175 (2025)
Report to reduce the impact of photovoltaic modules
Responses to OFM's Questions

1. Are the fiscal note assumptions still current, specifically the $350,000 consultant contract and the $60,000 market data purchase?
Yes, the assumptions specified in fiscal note for SB 5175 (2025) are current. Ecology estimates $350,000 is needed for the contract work for committee and legislative report, and $60,000 needed for the data purchase.

2. Are any of your cost assumptions scalable?
One close comparison to this work is the EV Battery Study directed by SB 5144 (2023). However, this study cost around $285,000, but the bill did not mandate using an external facilitator for managing an advisory council and the work was completed in-house. Therefore, Ecology believes Photovoltaic Module Advisory Committee and Legislative Report costs represent the minimum baseline required to meet the statutory requirements of RCW 70A.510.020(4). A reduced consultant contract would not cover the necessary advisory committee facilitation or technical material recovery analysis.

3. What is the projected 044 fund balance outlook for 2027-29? Is there available fund balance to accommodate this appropriation increase?
Ecology estimates starting 2027-29 biennium with a WRRLCA fund balance of $4.48 million, which is sufficient to cover the 2027-29 costs assumed in our fiscal note.

4. Is there a future path available to recover these costs from manufacturer fees under RCW 70A.510.010(9), consistent with the principle that manufacturers finance the program?
Yes. Currently Ecology has limited information regarding the sellers of photovoltaic modules, including their market share within Washington. Once that information is made available, Ecology could charge the fees and recover our expenses accordingly. Due to the delay instituted in program implementation through SB 5175 (2025), the first year Ecology could theoretically recover these fees would be fiscal year 2030.

5. Are the assumptions regarding the corresponding -$76,000 reduction to 22G still current?
Yes. The narrative in the fiscal note for HB 2645 (2020) specified cash receipts of $38,000 per year on an ongoing basis. SB 5175 (2025) delayed program implementation until January 31, 2030, effectively resulting in zeroing out the $76,000 biennial revenue until the 2029-31 biennium and onwards.

6. Section 2 is subject to appropriation. If this isn't funded, what happens to the December 1, 2028 report and the January 2030 and 2031 deadlines in Section 1?
If there is no adequate funding, the advisory committee will not form and the legislative report will not be produced, nor submitted.

Tab C-2 Reduce and Prepare for Climate Impacts 161

1. PL DE Achieving Statutory Decarbonization..... 163
2. PL DA Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority..... 183

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Agency Recommendation Summary

As Washington's climate programs continue to mature, sustained funding is essential to maintain the systems, staffing, and infrastructure required for their effective operation. The Cap-and-Invest Program has expanded since its inception due to new legislative requirements that added ongoing implementation needs as Ecology administers a complex, statewide carbon market. This request will ensure Ecology can carry out the long term responsibilities required by the Legislature and continue driving progress toward Washington's 2050 net-zero emissions requirement. (Climate Commitment Act Operating Account, Air Pollution Control Account, Clean Fuels Program Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.2	4.6	**2.9**	4.6	4.6	**4.6**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 216 - 1	$45	$2,074	**$2,119**	$2,299	$2,299	**$4,598**
Fund 25Q - 1	$46	$46	**$92**	$46	$46	**$92**
Fund 30P - 1	$987	($362)	**$625**	($587)	($587)	**($1,174)**
Total Expenditures	**$1,078**	**$1,758**	**$2,836**	**$1,758**	**$1,758**	**$3,516**
Revenue						
216 - 0299	$45	$2,074	**$2,119**	$2,299	$2,299	**$4,598**
25Q - 0299	$46	$46	**$92**	$46	$46	**$92**
Total Revenue	**$91**	**$2,120**	**$2,211**	**$2,345**	**$2,345**	**$4,690**

Decision Package Description

Background:
This request pertains to the Cap-and-Invest Program created under the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) and the Greenhouse Gas Reporting Program (GHGRP) created under RCW 70A.15.2200. These programs are closely interrelated and interdependent because the GHGRP provides the data that the Cap-and-Invest Program is based on. The GHGRP data are the basis of compliance obligations for regulated companies which, in turn, enable enforcement of the emissions cap and the generation of revenue under the CCA.

CAP-AND-INVEST PROGRAM
Changes in climate pose serious threats to Washington's economy, public health, natural resources, and environment. In 2021, in response to these threats, the Legislature passed Engrossed Second Substitute Senate Bill 5126 (SB 5126) – Climate Commitment Act, which established a comprehensive program to reduce carbon pollution and achieve the greenhouse gas (GHG) limits set in state law. This law caps and reduces GHG emissions from the state's largest emitting sources and industries, allowing businesses to find the most efficient and cost-effective path to lower carbon emissions.

Under the law, Ecology implemented a Cap-and-Invest Program, starting January 1, 2023, that set emissions allowance budgets to meet the state GHG reduction limits established in RCW 70A.45.020: Greenhouse gas emissions reductions—Reporting requirements. Covered entities must either reduce their emissions or obtain allowances to cover any emissions that occur. Some utilities and industries are issued free allowances, and other allowances are auctioned by Ecology and purchased by GHG emitters. Proceeds from these auctions are appropriated by the Legislature to 37 state agencies (in 2025-27) that invest in clean energy transition and assistance, clean transportation, and climate resilience projects that promote climate justice.

Ecology is responsible for implementing the overall CCA and received initial funding in the 2021-23 biennium. However, significant last-minute changes to the CCA before it passed the Legislature expanded the scope and workload of the program. These changes created a gap between the funding provided in the 2021-23 enacted operating budget and the costs outlined in Ecology's final fiscal note. As a result, Ecology entered the 2021-23 biennium underfunded for staffing, system development, interested party engagement, and program infrastructure needed for successful program launch.

In a 2022 supplemental budget request, Ecology sought and received the additional resources necessary to complete core implementation activities for the 2021-23 biennium, consistent with that final fiscal note, including developing technical systems, hiring essential staff, and

completing required policy and rule development.

As CCA implementation progressed, additional funding was requested in the 2023-25 biennium. Ecology received funding to support staffing capacity across GHG Reporting and Verification, Auction and Markets, and Industrial Decarbonization sections. Funding provided included increases for economic modeling and analysis and auction platform contracts.

Then, in the 2024 supplemental budget request, Ecology requested and received additional funding to continue implementation by supporting staffing for the Cap-and-Invest Program and related priorities, including expanded IT system needs, zero-emission vehicle program implementation, hydrofluorocarbon emission reduction activities, and key contracting resources.

As implementation has advanced and matured across the Cap-and-Invest Program and the GHGRP, Ecology's Climate Pollution Reduction Program (CPRP) has continued to identify both existing statutorily required and emerging needs in several critical areas.

In the 2026 legislative session, in acknowledgment of the ongoing responsibilities created by the CCA, Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2251 (HB 2251) reaffirmed the state's commitment to effectively administering the Cap-and-Invest Program. HB 2251 establishes a stable framework for long-term program administration by expressing the Legislature's intent to support the workforce, systems, and contractual needs required to operate a complex, market-based climate program and ensure it continues to generate revenue for the state.

As Ecology transitions from initial implementation into ongoing administration, this predictable investment level helps ensure Ecology can continue to meet statutory requirements, maintain secure and modernized information technology (IT) infrastructure, support regulated entities, and preserve the integrity of Washington's climate programs. HB 2251's dedicated funding intention represents recognition that implementing the CCA is not a temporary endeavor, but an essential function of the state's climate strategy—one that requires reliable, sustained resources to support program stability, market confidence, and Washington's progress toward its GHG reduction limits.

GREENHOUSE GAS REPORTING PROGRAM

When Engrossed Second Substitute House Bill 2815 (HB?2815) created the GHGRP in 2008, , the Legislature authorized Ecology to collect fees from the GHG emission reporting entities to cover the agency's costs to administer the program (RCW 70A.15.2200(2)). The fees are intended to support a broad range of costs necessary to administering the GHGRP, including registration, reporting, inspection, data storage, engineering review, and clerical support. Through this request, Ecology plans to better align the funding source for the GHGRP work (the fees) with its original legislative intent.

The GHGRP is central to the Cap-and-Invest Program, and passage of the CCA significantly impacted and expanded the work under the GHGRP. In 2021, our final fiscal note for the CCA (SB 5126) anticipated that some GHGRP costs would first be supported by the CCA accounts, but that in future years they would ultimately shift to the Air Pollution Control Account (APCA), where GHGRP fee revenue is deposited.

SB 5126 also directed Ecology to actively consider linking Washington's carbon market with California and Québec. To support that effort, our fiscal note estimated a need for approximately 2.3 FTEs per year to align Washington's reporting system with California's, and about 5.8 FTEs per year to reorganize, collect, and verify data and support new GHG emissions reporters.

Since SB 5126 was enacted, additional legislation—SB 6058 (2024), HB 1912 (2025), and HB 2215 (2026)—has added staffing for the GHGRP, which are currently supported with funding from the CCA accounts. These added FTEs are consistent with the GHGRP's legislative intent and should now shift from CCA onto the APCA, so they are supported by GHGRP fee revenue.

Each year, companies that submit an annual GHG emissions report to Ecology pay a fee, which is deposited into the APCA. These companies include electric power entities, fuel suppliers, natural gas suppliers, and facility operators. In 2025, 335 companies submitted reports. Their fees will be billed in October 2026 and are due in December 2026. Reporters who undergo third-party verification (3PV) currently pay $2,413, and those who do not need third-party verification (non-3PV) pay $456. The last fee update was completed in October 2025 (https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/SummaryPages/2514096.html).

Ecology is required to adjust the fee annually (usually in October), following a workload model, ensuring that 3PV reporters cover 90% of the program implementation cost, and non-3PV reporters cover 10%. Ecology uses a workload analysis model to project the fee-related activities necessary to implement the program, such as IT maintenance, technical assistance to the reporting community, data analysis, collaboration with partner agencies, verification and compliance, and program administration.

Because the CCA expanded GHGRP responsibilities, the program's staffing needs have increased over the years to 15.5 FTEs. However, the

current GHGRP fee structure only funds 2.5 FTEs of them, which is the same level that the fee supported prior to passage of the CCA. The remaining 13.0 FTEs are currently funded through the Climate Investment Account, including two project positions that will end in fiscal year 2027.

To realign with the GHGRP statute and intent, Ecology plans to reassess the GHGRP workload in the fall of 2027 (fiscal year 2028) to factor in the full 13.5 ongoing FTEs supporting this work: 2.5 FTEs currently paid by GHG fees, plus 11.0 permanent FTEs currently paid by the CCA.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
Yes

Problem/Opportunity:
Ecology has reached a pivotal stage in the ongoing administration of the state's flagship climate policies, including the interrelated CCA and the GHGRP. These climate policies deliver significant benefits to the people of Washington in the form of reduced GHG emissions, cleaner air, investments in climate resilience, and progress toward a clean energy economy. As the programs have matured, Ecology's statutory responsibilities have expanded. Although the CCA has been amended several times, and Ecology's implementation staffing has increased with each amendment, this request seeks to address new responsibilities that were introduced in the original CCA bill and are only now taking effect. These are permanent obligations that require stable staffing, ongoing contracting resources, and modern, secure IT systems.

As Ecology adapts our staffing resources to meet current statutory requirements, we also seek to better align our funding model with legislative intent. This budget request will align the fees paid by companies required to report their GHG emissions to Ecology with the workload necessary to administer and implement the GHGRP. Much of this work is currently funded out of the Climate Investment Account and, under recently amended law, will be funded out of the CCA Operating Account starting with fiscal year 2028. As auction revenues decline (as expected) and allocation of CCA funding becomes more restricted, this request will ensure the GHGRP has a sustainable funding source and does not unnecessarily burden the CCA Operating Account.

The problem Ecology faces is that critical technical, planning, analytical, and compliance functions are staffed below what is needed to maintain program integrity, be responsive to legislative and public inquiries, and fulfill Ecology's obligations under the law. IT systems essential to market stability and regulatory compliance are facing security vulnerabilities and require dedicated staffing and tools for modernization and ongoing maintenance. In the Cap-and-Invest Program, as well as the GHGRP, the lack of sufficient staffing limits Ecology's ability to carry out required oversight; engage with utilities and regulated industries, the public, Tribes, and overburdened communities; and maintain accurate and defensible analysis that underpins major policy decisions.

This budget request will address these core requirements by establishing a sustainable staffing and funding structure for both the GHGRP and CCA that provides for the ongoing nature of Ecology's responsibilities. It will secure and sustain essential positions, strengthen technical capacity, maintain critical IT systems, provide program reliability and transparency, and preserve Washington's ability to participate in the linked carbon market. Without these resources, Ecology's ability to carry out its statutory duties and safeguard the integrity of Washington's climate programs would be significantly compromised.

Proposed Solution:
This budget request seeks funding for additional staff and required contracts in both the GHGRP and Cap-and-Invest Program teams and CPRP's IT team so Ecology can continue to meet statutory requirements. Ecology's proposed solution is organized into three phases, by fiscal year, with each fiscal year changes building on the previous one, as summarized in the following tables and sections below.

Direct FTEs	Cap-and-Invest	GHGRP	IT Section
2027-29 Carryforward Level (CFL)			
CFL Total	**54.50**	**2.50**	**15.00**
FY 2028 and ongoing			
New FTEs	-	-	1.00
Other ML Adjustments (not in this DP)*	(2.50)	-	-
FY 2028 Total	**52.00**	**2.50**	**16.00**
FY 2029 and ongoing			
New FTEs	2.00	1.00	-
Shift FTEs	(10.00)	10.00	-
FY 2029 Total	**44.00**	**13.50**	**16.00**
FY 2030 and ongoing			
Shift FTEs	(1.00)	1.00	-
FY 2030 Total	**43.00**	**14.50**	**16.00**

* A total of 2.5 direct FTEs (including the 2 project positions mentioned above) and associated funding will be reduced starting in FY 2028 as part of several separate maintenance level adjustments for recently enacted legislation. These reductions are not included in this Decision Package (DP), but are included with Ecology 2027-29 operating/transportation budget submittal.

Annual Contracts	Cap-and-Invest	GHGRP
FY 2028 and ongoing		
WCI, Inc.	**$850,000**	**-**
FY 2029 and ongoing		
Third-Party Verifiers	**-**	**$65,000**

STARTING IN FISCAL YEAR 2028 AND ONGOING

1. IT Needs

Since creation of Ecology's CPRP, application development and maintenance work has steadily increased as each of its policy programs incorporate technology to efficiently and effectively carry out their regulatory mandates. Development timelines for many of the program's IT tools were initially underestimated and have required greater staff resources than expected to complete. IT staffing capacity needs to be addressed to sustain current CPRP operations and meet revised project, technology, and security requirements.

1.0 New FTE: New IT Application Development Senior Specialist: Due to advancing security standards from Ecology's IT Services Office and WaTech, along with an increase in suspicious activity on our platforms, this additional IT Application Development Senior Specialist will be necessary to coordinate security scanning, vulnerability assessment, accessibility-related technical work, and associated remediation across the CPRP application portfolio. This position will provide dedicated capacity to address mandatory technical debt, reduce cybersecurity risk, and support required technology upgrades across multiple applications.

This resource is necessary because CPRP's current IT staff are fully committed to maintaining and enhancing approximately 10 applications and related IT tools that support five policy areas. These systems require ongoing maintenance, defect correction, updates, accessibility improvements, and security upgrades to remain operational, secure, and compliant. CPRP's IT team is also exploring new software tools to assist in maintaining quality and security in its applications. As a result, current staff do not have sufficient capacity to absorb new workload. This new position will be funded by three fund sources: 60% from the CCA Operating, 20% from the APCA (GHG Fees), and 20% from the Clean Fuel Program Account.

2. Contracting Needs

WCI, Inc. Contract Increase ($850,000 annually): WCI, Inc., is the auction and market vendor that maintains the IT platform for all participating jurisdictions, and they facilitate collection of Washington's state allowance auction revenue under the Cap-and-Invest Program. Currently, WCI costs are divided among Washington, California, Québec, and New York, based on emissions. With Washington's smaller share of emissions relative to the total across all four jurisdictions, this cost sharing model gives Washington substantial cost savings.

The state of New York is in the process of adjusting the timeline for implementing their Cap-and-Invest program, and this is likely to result in a substantial drop in their current contribution to shared WCI costs. Historically, New York contributed significantly more than Washington, based

on WCI's cost sharing model. However, going forward, Ecology anticipates the need to increase our funding contribution as New York decreases their near-term funding.

New York's anticipated decrease must be absorbed by the other three jurisdictions, and WCI is splitting the increased funding obligations across California, Quebec, and Washington. Washington is planning to absorb less than one-fourth of the increased cost being split among the three jurisdictions, based on Washington's share of the collective emissions of all four jurisdictions. However, the increase in costs is still expected to be significant. Ecology currently contracts with WCI for $1.7 million per biennium. But once the costs are reset, we expect those costs to double to around $3.4 million per biennium.

Continuing our partnership with other jurisdictions generates significant cost savings for Washington on an ongoing basis and affords us the opportunity to continue a shared market and auction platform that is an essential precondition to linkage. WCI's only source of funding is the member jurisdictions of California, Quebec, New York, and Washington, so the consequences of not receiving additional funding to cover our portion of the updated shared cost model would be a temporary or extended cessation of Washington's Cap-and-Invest market and auctions. Ceasing auctions would eliminate auction revenue and mean that Ecology could no longer administer the allowance market—leaving Ecology unable to carry out the majority of the CCA (Chapter 70A.65 RCW) and all of the Cap-and-Invest Program rule (Chapter 173-446 WAC). In addition, Washington agencies that received CCA funding would be unable to continue programs that rely on that funding.

STARTING IN FISCAL YEAR 2029 AND ONGOING

1. Cap-and-Invest Program New Needs

Ecology is in the fourth year of implementing the CCA's Cap-and-Invest Program, which has generated nearly $5 billion for the state to date. The Cap-and-Invest Program is responsible for implementing emissions reporting; managing auctions, the market, and market surveillance; overseeing a program to issue carbon offset credits; handling CCA policy changes; and conducting periodic performance evaluations to demonstrate progress toward Washington's statutory GHG reduction limits.

Over the last five years of implementation, Ecology received additional appropriations for the CCA responsibilities several times: in the 2022 supplemental, 2023-25, and 2024 supplemental budgets, which also included funding associated with newly enacted legislation. While funding has been received, there still remains a small number of statutory obligations that are taking effect for the first time and require additional resources. Accordingly, Ecology is requesting funding for additional staff beginning in fiscal year 2029 to fully meet these requirements.

1.0 New FTE: Environmental Planner 4 (EP4): The CCA requires Ecology to conduct a comprehensive review of the Cap-and-Invest Program, a separate program performance review, and to support the Joint Legislative Audit & Review Committee's five-year program implementation analysis (RCW 70A.65.060(5), RCW 70A.65.070(3), and RCW 70A.65.290).

In 2021, Ecology's final fiscal note anticipated the need for 0.45 FTE beginning fiscal year 2027 to implement this effort, and we would have needed to follow up with a decision package request for additional resources in the future. Based on our current understanding of the substantial data synthesis and analysis required to thoroughly and accurately assess program performance to the standard established in statute, Ecology now understands what additional resources are needed. The requested 1.0 FTE EP4 will coordinate developing and producing program reports for the Cap-and-Invest Program; respond to information requests from the Legislature, the Governor's Office, and the public; and ensure the availability of reliable and accessible public data about the Cap-and-Invest Program.

This position, alongside the Environmental Engineer 6 (EE6) in the GHGRP (details below), will allow Ecology to provide meaningful and actionable information for the Legislature on the program's progress, successes, and challenges, as required by law. Assuring the CCA helps Washington meet its statutory GHG limits with the greatest effectiveness and at the lowest possible cost to Washingtonians is critical to maintaining and improving the CCA as viable and effective state climate policy. In addition, it is critically important that Ecology respond effectively to increasingly complex analytical questions on emissions and market trends being asked for by legislators, the Governor's Office, and market participants.

1.0 New FTE: Environmental Planner 5 (EP5): The CCA requires gas utilities to decarbonize quickly or face high compliance costs, and most gas utilities have not made significant progress to date. Utilities, the Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), and rate-payer advocates have asked for greater Ecology participation in charting a course for natural gas utilities to actively plan to reduce emissions and protect customer affordability. This EP5 will support regulation of the natural gas sector. This position will focus on the allocation of no-cost allowances to natural gas utilities, natural gas system decarbonization, renewable gas and hydrogen development, and policy coordination with the UTC. Ecology's lack of current capacity to engage on the topic is inhibiting the program's ability to regulate this significant sector, which is needed to make sure it achieves GHG emissions as the law requires.

2. GHGRP New Needs

Ecology is also requesting funding for an additional 1.0 FTE and new contracting needs beginning in fiscal year 2029 and ongoing, as follows:

0.5 FTE: Environmental Engineer 6 (EE6). This EE6 will lead GHG emissions data analysis work and develop methods for data review that will be carried forward through periodic Cap-and-Invest Program performance and progress reviews. This EE6 position will ensure consistent methodologies and technical approaches to calculating GHG emissions across the program, ensuring greater consistency in Ecology's regulation of GHG emissions, and performance and progress reviews. This expert will also guide rulemaking and assess the impact of rules on GHG emissions calculations and verifications.

0.5 FTE: Environmental Engineer 6 (EE6): The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Performance Standard (Chapter 173-407 WAC) is a highly technical regulation that applies to new and existing power plants in the state. This regulatory tool complements the CCA by requiring new and existing natural gas plants to operate at defined emission rates. There has been little policy development under this standard for many years because existing fossil fueled power plants are compliant and, until recently, there had been no new fossil fueled power plants built or proposed. However, as the state faces an electricity reliability crisis, Ecology has seen a significant number of proposals for new fossil-fueled power plants over the past year, including some located at data centers and manufacturing facilities. There is substantial regulatory work needed to allow a pathway for new power plants to be built or begin operating.

Ecology is not staffed to fulfill this statutorily required and increasingly complex work, which is needed by the electric power industry as it races to increase grid capacity to serve Washingtonians. Ecology is also required by statute to update its rules frequently, requiring cross-program coordination to support decisions that involve complex engineering analysis. The program lacks a regulatory environmental engineer to provide cross-program technical review and recommendations for rules involving carbon emissions, fuel carbon intensity, fluorinated gases, zero-emission vehicles, GHG reporting, and market linkage with other jurisdictions.

Third-Party Verification (3PV) ($65,000 annually): Additional contract funding is requested to support the training of third-party emissions report verifiers. 3PV is critical to ensuring accurate and complete GHG emissions reporting from entities and validating offset projects. 3PV is required under statute for both GHG emissions reporting and offsets project proposals. GHG emissions reporting requires 3PV under RCW 70A.15.220. 3PV is required of all Ecology approved offsets projects (WAC 173-446-530) to meet the requirements of RCW 70A.65.170(2)(b)(i).

Offset projects are required to use different offset project verifiers over the span of the project (WAC 173-446-535(1)). The current pool of Ecology-approved 3PVs will not be sufficient to meet near term demand as a result of program growth. Washington has benefited from California's training of offset verifiers because Washington initially adopted California's protocols. However, since then, Ecology has amended protocols to new Washington-specific offset standards and now requires customized 3PV.

3. FTE Shifts from GHGRP to Cap-and-Invest

As noted above, Ecology plans to align the work with the intended funding source for the GHGRP. This will be achieved by gradual increases in the GHGRP fees so that the GHGRP work can be fully supported by the collected fees. As such, this request includes a shift of existing GHGRP staff, who are currently funded by the CCA, to be funded by the GHG fees (collected in APCA). This will ensure the GHGRP has a self-sustaining and reliable funding source, while redirecting funds in our current CCA Operating carryforward level to support Ecology's CCA-specific work

To manage the GHGRP fee increase, Ecology will implement a tiered approach that transitions FTEs in two phases and gradually increases the fees to support these shifts. This strategy will help maintain program stability, acclimate the reporting community to fee adjustments, and align fee revenues with staffing needs over time.

The team that carries out the GHGRP currently consists of 15.5 FTEs:

- 2.5 direct FTEs are currently supported by the GHGRP fees collected in the APCA.
- 13.0 direct FTEs are currently supported by the CIA, which includes two project positions that will end in fiscal year 2027, leaving 11.0 direct FTEs ongoing.

Given that all 13.5 ongoing direct FTEs (2.5 + 11.0) are engaged in fee-eligible activities, Ecology is requesting that 10.0 FTEs currently funded by CCA be shifted from CCA to APCA starting with fiscal year 2029 and ongoing.

STARTING IN FISCAL YEAR 2030 AND ONGOING

Ecology is requesting that the remaining 1.0 FTE currently supported by CCA, but conducting GHGRP work, be shifted from CCA to APCA starting with fiscal year 2030 and ongoing.

HOW IS THE PROPOSED SOLUTION ACHIEVABLE

Our requested adjustments can be achieved by gradually increasing the GHG fees to the level necessary to support the GHGRP work, as authorized under RCW 70A.15.2200(2). Under our current process for adjusting the GHG reporting fees, Ecology will verify payer numbers in May 2027, update the fee in October 2027, and see increased revenue starting in fiscal year 2029. Ecology recognizes that this requested shift will increase fee amounts for participants. However, many of them are currently experiencing declining CCA compliance costs resulting from linking Washington's carbon market with California and Québec, and that decrease will offset the impact of the increased GHGRP fee for many reporters.

The following table represents Ecology estimated collections through fiscal year 2032. More details about the fee increases and anticipated revenues are presented in the "Justification for New or Increased Fee Request" section of this budget request.

Greenhouse Gas Reporting Fees

Fiscal Year	Total Fee Amount	3PV Reporters	3PV Fee	3PV Collections	Non-3PV Reporters	Non-3PV Fee	Non-3PV Collections
FY 2027 [1]	$455,841	170	$2,413	$410,257	100	$456	$45,584
FY 2028 [2]	$501,438	202	$2,234	$451,294	138	$363	$50,144
FY 2029 [3]	$2,530,027	202	$11,272	$2,277,024	138	$1,833	$253,003
FY 2030 [4]	$2,755,222	202	$12,276	$2,479,700	138	$1,997	$275,522
FY 2031	$2,755,222	202	$12,276	$2,479,700	138	$1,997	$275,522
FY 2032	$2,674,334	202	$11,915	$2,406,901	138	$1,938	$267,433

[1] FY 2027: 2.5 FTEs are currently supported by the GHG reporting fees collected in the Air Pollution Control Account (APCA). The current fees are published at https://apps.ecology.wa.gov/publications/documents/2514096.pdf.

[2] FY 2028: The fees will slightly decrease in FY 2028 because we anticipate the number of reporters to increase from FY 2027 to FY 2028.

[3] FY 2029: 10.0 FTEs will be shifted from the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) Operating Account to the APCA, and 1.0 new FTE will be added to the program, both ongoing.

[4] FY 2030: 1.0 additional FTE will be shifted from the CCA Operating Account to the APCA, ongoing.

Impacts on Population Served:

The impacts on populations served by the CCA are broad, long-term, and directly tied to the ability of Ecology to maintain stable staffing, secure IT systems, and reliable program operations. Communities across Washington, particularly overburdened, low-income, rural, and Tribal communities, benefit from cleaner air, reduced pollution exposure, and improved public health outcomes as these programs continue to drive down GHG emissions from transportation, industry, electricity, and fuels. CCA revenues also deliver meaningful economic benefits by funding weatherization, electrification, reliable transit options, and community-scale climate resilience projects. These investments directly reduce cost burdens on households and provide opportunities for communities that have historically experienced underinvestment.

Program stability is essential for ensuring these benefits are not disrupted. Continuity in staffing and secure, functional systems enable Ecology to provide accurate reporting tools, timely compliance assistance, and predictable regulatory operations for utilities, local governments, Tribes, and businesses. When regulated entities can confidently participate in the Cap-and-Invest market, these resulting revenues and emissions reductions translate into cleaner transportation options, safer homes, improved air quality, and expanded economic opportunities for the people and communities that need them most. Maintaining reliable program performance also supports market confidence and ensures Washington can continue directing billions of dollars in climate investments to public health, community resilience, and environmental justice priorities statewide.

Alternatives Explored:

Alternative methods of funding this request were considered but ultimately determined to be insufficient to meet Ecology's long-term statutory responsibilities.

One option explored was continuing to rely on temporary project funding and time-limited positions, as Ecology has done throughout the initial implementation period. However, this approach is no longer viable. The work associated with the CCA is ongoing and expanding, and temporary resources would continue to create operational instability. Relying on short-term staffing puts critical functions—such as market oversight, emissions analysis, rulemaking, customer support, and IT systems—at risk of interruption.

Ecology also considered narrowing the scope of program services to fit within current resources. This alternative was rejected because it would lead to noncompliance with statutory obligations, delays in critical market operations, weakened oversight of regulated entities, and increased risks to the stability of Washington's carbon market and climate investments.

In terms of the GHGRP, Ecology explored the possibility of maintaining the status quo by not shifting staff from the CCA to the GHG reporting fee collected in APCA. However, this would result in a lost opportunity to align spending with GHGRP legislative intent and reduce pressure on the CCA Operating Account at a time when funds in that account are in increasingly high demand.

Because these alternatives would either undermine program integrity, create compliance risks, fail to provide the sustained infrastructure required for long-term implementation, and forego budgetary improvements, Ecology determined that this request represents the only viable solution. The dedicated CCA implementation funding established under HB 2251 (2026) further reinforces the need for a stable and durable funding structure to support these responsibilities and ensure uninterrupted performance of the state's climate programs.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:
Without the requested funding, Ecology's ability to carry out its statutory obligations under the CCA would be compromised. The CCA establishes ongoing, complex, and legally binding requirements that demand reliable staffing, technical capacity, and program infrastructure. Without sufficient resources, Ecology would face gaps in core functions such as market oversight, emissions reporting, and compliance monitoring. These gaps would increase the risk of inconsistent program performance, delayed implementation of critical requirements, and reduce transparency and accountability. Additionally, a poorly functioning and less transparent market carries costs for entities participating in the Cap-and-Invest Program that are passed on to Washingtonians and can result in meaningful impacts to affordability. Over time, the lack of adequate capacity would undermine the integrity of Washington's Cap-and-Invest market and hinder the state's ability to assure its statutory climate pollution reduction obligations are met. Not funding this request would also decrease the amount of customer service Ecology could provide to regulated communities tasked with decarbonizing some of the most challenging industries.

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Greenhouse Gas Reporting Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

For FY 2027
- Subject to third-party verification: $2,413 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $456 per year

3. Proposed Rate:

For FY 2028
- Subject to third-party verification: $2,234 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $363 per year

For FY 2029
- Subject to third-party verification: $11,272 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $1,833 per year

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

For FY 2028
- Subject to third-party verification: -$179 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: -$93 per year

For FY 2029
- Subject to third-party verification: $8,859 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $1,377 per year

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

For FY 2028

- Subject to third-party verification: $41,037 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $4,560 per year

For FY 2029

- Subject to third-party verification: $1,866,767 per year
- Not subject to third-party verification: $207,419 per year

7. Justification: The Legislature directed the collection of a fee to support the GHGRP. Per RCW 70A.15.2200, this fee is intended to support program functions. The positions being shifted from the CIA to the fees collected in APCA will support legislatively mandated work eligible to be funded by the GHGRP fee. Ecology seeks appropriation authority to ensure that we can collect the fee from participants at a level necessary to support the GHGRP work.

This fee is split between entities subject to third-party verification (90%) and those that are required to report but are not subject to third-party verification (10%). Entities subject to third-party verification are primarily those that emit over 25,000 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent and have a compliance obligation under the Cap-and-Invest Program. Although the fee increase on these entities is significant, for most of them, it will more than offset their costs by falling Cap-and-Invest compliance costs because of Washington linking its carbon market with those of California and Québec.

There are approximately 170 entities for fiscal year 2027 and Ecology anticipates 202 entities in fiscal year 2028 and ongoing in this category. Entities not subject to third-party verification are those that emit over 10,000 metric tons of CO_2 equivalent and under 25,000 tons. Most of these entities do not have a compliance obligation under the Cap-and-Invest Program. There were approximately 100 in this category in fiscal year 2027 and Ecology anticipates 138 entities in the category in fiscal year 2028 and ongoing.

8. Changes in Who Pays: N/A

9. Changes in Methodology: N/A

10. RecSum Code: DE

11. Alternatives: No alternatives

12. Statutory Change Required? No

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Clean Fuels Program Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

- FY 2027: $2,478,087

3. Proposed Rate:

- For FY 2028: 2,523,684
- For FY 2029: 2,569,281

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

- For FY 2028: $45,597
- For FY 2029: $45,597

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

- For FY 2028: 45,597

- For FY 2029: 45,597

7. Justification: The Clean Fuels Standard Account would need to increase to support 20% of the IT Specialist salary, benefits and agency costs.

8. Changes in Who Pays: N/A

9. Changes in Methodology: N/A

10. RecSum Code: DE

11. Alternatives: No alternatives

12. Statutory Change Required? No

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request expands Activity A063 – Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation by adding additional staff and contract resources to ensure continued successful implementation of Ecology's suite of climate policies. Below is a summary of the 2023-25 and 2025-27 base funding and FTEs for this activity. Administrative Overhead related to this activity is also in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals below.

A063 – Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation		
	2023-25	**2025-27**
FTEs Total	115.75	150.40
001-1 General Fund-State	$2,082,000	509,000
216-1 Air Pollution Control	$1,253,000	$1,360,000
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating	$1,320,000	$1,373,000
25Q-1 Clean Fuels Program	$4,702,000	$6,543,000
25T-1 Refrigerant Emissions Management	$2,828,000	$4,299,000
26B-1 Climate Investment	$53,092,000	$63,711,000
26C-1 Climate Commitment	$1,320,000	$2,025,000
TOTAL	**$66,597,000**	**$79,820,000**

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

New resources in fiscal year 2028 and ongoing:

- Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for 1.0 FTE IT Application Development Senior Specialist.
- Ecology requires $850,000 per year in additional funding to support increased contracting costs for WCI, Inc., the auction and market vendor that maintains the IT platform that facilitates the collection of state allowance auction revenue under the Cap-and-Invest Program.

New resources in fiscal year 2029 and ongoing:

- For the Cap-and-Invest Program: Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for the following positions to support continued program implementation:
  - 1.0 FTE Environmental Planner 4 – Legislative Report Coordinator
  - 1.0 FTE Environmental Planner 5 – Natural Gas Policy
- For the GHGRP: Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for the following position:
  - 0.5 FTE Environmental Engineer 6 – Greenhouse Gas Emissions Data Analysis Lead

- 0.5 FTE Environmental Engineer 6 – Regulatory Environmental Engineer

- For the GHGRP: Ecology requires $65,000 per year in additional funding for contracts to support the training of third-party emissions report verifiers.

Fund shifts in fiscal year 2029 and ongoing from CCA Operating to the GHG Reporting Fee (APCA):

- Funding that supports salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for the following positions will shift from the CCA Operating Account to GHGRP fee, which is deposited into the APCA:
  - 1.0 FTE WMS2 – Section Manager
  - 0.5 FTE Administrative Assistant 3 – Administrative support
  - 1.0 FTE Environmental Specialist 3 – Compliance
  - 0.75 FTE Environmental Engineer 3 – Sector leads
  - 4.75 FTEs Environmental Engineers 2 – GHG engineers for multiple sectors
  - 1.0 Environmental Planner 4
  - 1.0 FTE Environmental Planner 3

Fund shifts in fiscal year 2030 and ongoing from CCA Operating to the GHG Reporting Fee (APCA):

- Funding that supports salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for the following positions will shift from the CCA Operating Account to GHGRP fee, which is deposited into the APCA:
  - 1.0 FTE Environmental Engineer 5 – Reporting technical lead

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
A	Salaries and Wages	130,344	480,348	480,348	480,348	480,348	480,348
B	Employee Benefits	40,798	150,348	150,348	150,348	150,348	150,348
C	Personal Service Contract	850,000	915,000	915,000	915,000	915,000	915,000
E	Goods and Services	5,531	22,125	22,125	22,125	22,125	22,125
G	Travel	1,931	7,725	7,725	7,725	7,725	7,725
J	Capital Outlays	605	2,421	2,421	2,421	2,421	2,421
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	48,775	179,748	179,748	179,748	179,748	179,748
	Total Objects	**1,077,984**	**1,757,715**	**1,757,715**	**1,757,715**	**1,757,715**	**1,757,715**

Staffing

Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 4	100,490		1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-SR/SPEC	130,344	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 5	110,956		1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 6	138,557		1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.10	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40	0.40
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		0.05	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20
	Total FTEs	**1.15**	**4.60**	**4.60**	**4.60**	**4.60**	**4.60**

Explanation of Costs by Object
Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Contracts include $850,000 per year, beginning in fiscal year 2028 for allowance trading and auction platform services, and $65,000 per year,

beginning in fiscal year 2029, to support the training of third-party emissions report verifiers.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	FY2029
FTEs (direct and indirect)	64.6	64.6
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$21,564,000	$21,565,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$21,564,000	$21,565,000

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives

Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.1 Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services.

This request will allow staff to have additional time to better engage with the communities because the workload will become manageable with the new FTEs provided.

Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts
Objective 2.1 Decrease GHG emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits

This request will ensure Ecology has the staff and resources to continue implementing the Cap-and-Invest Program and others to ensure Washington meets its statutory emissions limits.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – This request will help protect and sustain Washington's environmental, cultural, and natural resources by ensuring the CPR Program at Ecology has the staff and resources necessary to continue implementing the Cap-and-Invest Program and others to ensure Washington meets its statutory emissions limits.

Governance – This request will help make state government more efficient and effective, centering people in every decision. Sustainable program FTEs will have additional time to better engage with the communities because the workload will become manageable with the new FTEs provided.

Performance Outcomes:

The mission of Ecology's CPRP is to guide Washington to a net-zero future by 2050. We implement policies that encourage businesses and individuals to reduce GHG emissions and build a clean energy economy.

The outcome of this request will be to improve implementation of climate policies designed to reduce GHG emissions. Our vision is a Washington where renewable energy is abundant and affordable, clean energy jobs help communities thrive, and polluting has a cost that reflects its harm.

Ecology demonstrates what can be accomplished by robust investment in our team of public servants, decisions based on knowledge and data, and serving our partners and communities. Washington informs and accelerates climate action locally, nationally, and globally, serving as a catalyst for a just and sustainable future. The outcome of this funding change will be an enhanced ability for Ecology to achieve this vision.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

There was no engagement with overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, or Tribes in developing this request.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

This budget request will provide stronger compliance and enforcement capacity in industries that impact overburdened communities. Stabilizing and expanding staffing for the Cap-and-Invest Program and GHGRP will help ensure regulated entities are monitored and held accountable. This is especially important for communities located near industrial sources or transportation corridors. Additional staff will also provide support for Indigenous and Tribal priorities through improved emissions and investment tracking. Tribes often engage in CCA-funded projects and climate resilience initiatives, so expanded reporting and technical assistance capacity will help support Tribal priorities and make investment information accessible and actionable.

Target Communities and Populations:

Ecology's suite of climate policy core requirements—including transparent investment reporting, emissions reduction accountability, community engagement, and air quality improvements—are specifically designed to benefit overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes. By building the staffing and technical capacity needed to fully implement these requirements, this budget request will enhance Ecology's ability to ensure that climate policy works for the communities most affected by pollution and climate impacts. Maintaining program capacity also ensures Washington can continue to direct billions of dollars in climate investments toward public health, community resilience, emissions reductions, and statewide environmental justice priorities.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

This request will only add implementation resources to support existing policies and will not have significant intergovernmental impacts.

Stakeholder Impacts:

The stakeholder groups most impacted by this request are the facilities regulated under the Cap-and-Invest Program and the GHGRP. They will benefit from the performance reporting described above, as well as from the enhanced third-party verification and IT security this request will enable. The regulated entities will experience the increased GHGRP fees, which will be felt most significantly by those subject to third-party verification, who are responsible for 90% of the total fee budget. Although the increased fees equate to increased regulatory costs for their businesses, because these are large industries, and because the fee increase will be partially or fully offset by decreasing cap-and-invest program compliance costs, we do not expect significant opposition.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Achieving Statutory Decarbonization-Attachment A.xlsx
Achieving Statutory Decarbonization-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$130	$480	**$610**	$480	$480	**$960**
Obj. B	$41	$150	**$191**	$150	$150	**$300**
Obj. C	$850	$915	**$1,765**	$915	$915	**$1,830**
Obj. E	$5	$22	**$27**	$22	$22	**$44**
Obj. G	$2	$8	**$10**	$8	$8	**$16**
Obj. J	$1	$3	**$4**	$3	$3	**$6**
Obj. T	$49	$180	**$229**	$180	$180	**$360**

Agency Contact Information

Joel Creswell
(360) 972-5035
joel.creswell@ecy.wa.gov

ATTACHMENT A - RELATED BUDGET ITEMS FUNDED IN THE PRIOR AND/OR CURRENT BIENNIA (2023-25 and 2025-27)

Biennium	Rec Sum Code/Title	RecSum Description	Fund Source	Duration	Amount
2023-25	PL-QB - Implement Climate Commitment Act	Ongoing funding is provided for increased resources to implement the Climate Commitment Act.	26B-1	Custom	$ 3,633,000
2023-25	PL-CCET - Expenditure Tracking	Funding is provided for a process to track and report on state agency expenditures from Climate Commitment Act accounts that provide benefits to overburdened communities or are supported by a Tribe.	26B-1	Ongoing	$ 640,000
2024 Supplemental	PL-PK - Climate Pollution Reduction	Funding is provided for increased support of the various climate-related policies that DOE is responsible for implementing. Funding is for staffing and contracted resources for activities such as IT systems, communications and rulemaking, energy-intensive trade-exposed (EITE) advisory group, offset protocol workshops, and subscriptions for energy-related data. Funding for this item is effective on January 1, 2025.	26B-1	Custom	$ 2,148,000
2024 Supplemental	PL-6058 - Carbon Market Linkage	Funding is provided to implement SSB 6058 (Carbon market linkage) pertaining to linking carbon markets with California and Quebec.	26B-1	Custom	$ 1,787,000
2025-27	PL-CCAR - CAA Analysis and Rulemaking	Funding is provided for 2SHB 1975 (Climate commitment act), including data and analysis on the market for Climate Commitment Act allowances and rulemaking.	26B-1	Custom	$ 2,816,000
2025-27	PL-AGFL - Agricultural Fuel/CCA	Funding is provided for E2SHB 1912 (Agricultural fuel/CCA ex.), including maintaining a directory of fuel sellers who sell agricultural fuel exempt from the impacts of the Climate Commitment Act and publishing an online guide for users of exempt agricultural fuel	26B-1	One-Time	$ 275,000
2026 Supplemental	PL-FCCA - Fuels/CCA	Funding is provided for the costs of E2SHB 2215 (Fuels/climate commitment act), including rulemaking, reporting, and various technical assistance related to an increase in covered entities under the Climate Commitment Act.	26B-1; 216-1	Custom	$ 511,000
2026 Supplemental	PL-6246 - Emissions/Trade-Exposed	Funding is provided to implement ESB 6246 (Emissions/trade-exposed), pertaining to a report about the Climate Commitment Act and energy intensive/trade-exposed facilities.	26C-1	Custom	$ 603,000
2026 Supplemental	PL-WTEF - Waste to Energy Facilities	Funding is provided for rulemaking and other costs of 2SHB 2416 (Waste to energy facilities), which creates new regulations for the greenhouse gas emissions of a waste-to-energy facility in lieu of compliance under the Climate Commitment Act.	26C-1	Custom	$ 226,000

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

This budget request will provide stronger compliance and enforcement capacity in industries that impact overburdened communities. Stabilizing and expanding staffing for the Cap-and-Invest Program and GHGRP helps ensure that regulated entities are monitored and held accountable. This is especially important for communities located near industrial sources or transportation corridors. Additional staff will also provide support for Indigenous and Tribal priorities through improved emissions and investment tracking. As Tribes often engage in CCA-funded projects and climate resilience initiatives, expanded reporting and technical assistance capacity helps support Tribal priorities, and that investment information is accessible and actionable.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   No, there has been no formally identified community need identified by an overburdened community or vulnerable population for this budget request.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   Yes. This budget request supports Ecology's Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees by providing improved data quality for projects serving overburdened communities. Enhanced emissions analysis capacity, new calculators (such as forestry-related carbon tools), and improved validation processes help ensure that projects intended to benefit vulnerable populations have credible, defensible, and measurable outcomes. This improves the accuracy of benefits analyses used by policymakers, Tribes, and community-based organizations.

   The budget request supports Ecology's Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts by providing more secure and reliable systems for climate data and reporting. Investments in IT modernization and security help protect sensitive regulatory and emissions information, increase public access to dashboards and tools, and improve the quality of data used to evaluate impacts on frontline communities.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   This budget request will provide stronger compliance and enforcement capacity in industries that impact overburdened communities. Stabilizing and expanding staffing for the Cap-and-Invest Program and GHGRP helps ensure that regulated entities are monitored and held accountable. This is especially

important for communities located near industrial sources or transportation corridors. Additional staff will also provide support for Indigenous and Tribal priorities through improved emissions and investment tracking. As Tribes often engage in CCA-funded projects and climate resilience initiatives, expanded reporting and technical assistance capacity helps support Tribal priorities, and that investment information is accessible and actionable.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   Additional staff will provide support for Indigenous and Tribal priorities through improved emissions and investment tracking. As Tribes often engage in CCA-funded projects and climate resilience initiatives, expanded reporting and technical assistance capacity helps support Tribal priorities, and that investment information is accessible and actionable. This request is for internal staffing to implement critical climate programs in the state. We did not engage with Tribes in developing this budget request.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   Not applicable.

Agency Recommendation Summary

Ecology is requesting authority to spend fees that will be collected from municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills under the landfill methane law, Chapter 70A.540 RCW. The Legislature adopted this law in 2022 and provided authority for Ecology and local air agencies to charge fees to MSW landfills to cover the costs of implementing the landfill methane program. In 2026, the Legislature adopted an amendment to the law (SB 6151, Chapter 87, laws of 2026) to require that fees collected by Ecology be deposited to the Air Pollution Control Account. Ecology is not currently collecting fees but announced a rulemaking to establish a process for collecting fees in July of 2026. This budget request is needed to provide Ecology the authority to spend the fees that we anticipate collecting from MSW landfills after we complete the rulemaking process. This request is related to implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda and broadly implementing the Governor's Salmon Strategy. (Air Pollution Control Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.2	1.2	**1.2**	1.2	1.2	**1.2**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 216 - 1	$200	$200	**$400**	$200	$200	**$400**
Total Expenditures	**$200**	**$200**	**$400**	**$200**	**$200**	**$400**
Revenue						
216 - 0299	$200	$200	**$400**	$200	$200	**$400**
Total Revenue	**$200**	**$200**	**$400**	**$200**	**$200**	**$400**

Decision Package Description

Background:

Ecology administers the landfill methane emissions law (Chapter 70A.540 RCW) to control emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, from municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills. This law was adopted in 2022 and sets requirements for active and closed MSW landfills that received waste after January 1, 1992.

On May 13, 2024, Ecology adopted a new rule, Chapter 173-408 WAC, Landfill Methane Emissions, to establish requirements for MSW landfills. Ecology worked closely with landfills on how to develop, implement, and submit documentation associated with the requirements of the rule ahead of the first official reports that were due on April 1, 2026. This included training sessions for rule requirements and system training for the Methane Emissions Monitoring & Reporting system that was built in the 2023-25 biennium and is currently being used to capture and report data.

Under current law (RCW 70A.540.130), Ecology and local air agencies may assess and collect fees to cover the direct and indirect costs to implement the landfill methane emissions law. Fees and penalties that Ecology collects under this law must be deposited to the Air Pollution Control Account (APCA) and may only be used to implement Chapter 70A.540 RCW. The fees provide stable and predictable funding to Ecology to coordinate with local air agencies to implement the landfill methane emissions program. This program helps ensure landfills are doing their part to meet Washington's aggressive goals to address greenhouse gases, including limiting emissions to 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

In July 2026, Ecology announced a rulemaking to establish a process to set fees. The purpose of this request is to provide Ecology authority to spend the funds we plan to collect from MSW landfills to implement the landfill methane program.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?

No

Problem/Opportunity:

Ecology is requesting authority to spend fees we plan to collect to cover the ongoing costs of implementing the Landfill Methane Program. The

Governor signed Ecology's agency request legislation (SB 6151) into law with an effective date of June 11, 2026. SB 6151 requires that fees collected by Ecology be deposited into a dedicated account, the APCA, instead of the state General Fund.

To oversee compliance with Chapter 173-455 WAC, Air Quality Fee Rule, Ecology will collect and review reports submitted by covered MSW landfills, including:

- Annual waste in place report
- Annual landfill gas heat input capacity
- Quarterly surface emissions monitoring report
- Quarterly gas collection and control systems operation
- Closure notifications
- Equipment removal reports

Ecology announced a rulemaking in July of 2026 to establish program fees to cover our costs associated with implementing the Landfill Methane Program. The fee is also needed to cover the costs to Ecology to complete the following activities:

- Receive, evaluate, and approve or deny alternative compliance measures.
- Approve modification to the landfill gas collection system.
- Verify receipt of leak reports and verify compliance with the requirement to repair the leak within 10 calendar days (in accordance WAC 173-408-110, Landfill Methane Emissions - Monitoring)
- Perform source compliance activities.
- Process requests made by Washington landfills to change testing frequency
- Coordinate with local air agencies for a uniform approach to rule implementation and enforcement.

Proposed Solution:

Ecology is requesting authority to spend the fees we anticipate collecting from MSW landfills. This authority will allow us to continue to effectively implement the Landfill Methane Program and oversee compliance with the reporting and other requirements under Chapter 173-408 WAC. This will help ensure landfills continue to do their part to limit emissions to 45% below 1990 levels by 2030 and achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

Impacts on Population Served:

This budget request indirectly impacts overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribal members by capturing and controlling methane emissions. MSW landfills are a significant source of methane emissions in Washington. Ecology's most recent Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory reported approximately 2.5 million metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions from MSW landfills, which is the equivalent of 583,138 gasoline-powered passenger vehicles driven for one year.

Methane is a potent greenhouse gas, 80 times more powerful than carbon dioxide in its first 20 years in the atmosphere. In addition to climate impacts, there are also health impacts associated with emissions of methane and other compounds contained in landfill gas. Methane is a major driver of ground-level ozone (smog), which is a harmful pollutant linked to premature death (Global health benefits of mitigating ozone pollution with methane emission controls, https://www.pnas.org/doi/10.1073/pnas.0600201103). When breathed in, ozone can irritate and inflame the respiratory tract, causing symptoms such as coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath, and wheezing, and these effects can be more serious in people with lung diseases. Landfill gas is also known to contain small percentages of toxic air pollutants that are harmful to human health. Implementing program fees and providing Ecology authority to spend those fees will enable Ecology to continue implementing the Landfill Methane Program, reducing methane emissions and other criteria and toxic air pollutants.

Alternatives Explored:

Without expenditure authority, Ecology would not be able to access the fee revenue we collect. No other alternatives are available.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

If this request is not funded, Ecology would not be able to oversee compliance with Chapter 173-455 WAC, Air Quality Fee Rule. Currently, landfills have no other financial obligation to Ecology that would provide funding for the accrued work associated with compliance with the rule. Ecology would be left with insufficient funds to complete required work under this rule and Chapter 173-408 WAC, Landfill Methane Emissions.

Ecology has temporarily used available state funds in the 2025-27 biennium to partially supplement working with Washington landfills on how to develop, implement, and submit documentation associated with the requirements of the rule. However, due to lack of additional capacity from available state funds and no additional landfill revenue streams, Ecology will have insufficient funds in the 2027-29 biennium to proceed with carrying out the landfill methane emissions law (Chapter 70A.540 RCW) adopted in 2022. This includes reviewing official reporting that began on April 1, 2026, and ongoing maintenance of the Methane Emissions Monitoring & Reporting System (MEMR – the system that supports requirements under Chapter 173-408 WAC).

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Landfill Methane Emission Fees

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate: N/A

3. Proposed Rate:

FY 2028: $200,475
FY 2029: $200,475

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

FY 2028: $200,475
FY 2029: $200,475

5. Expected Implementation Date: 2027-29 Biennium

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

FY 2028: $200,475
FY 2029: $200,475

7. Justification: State law authorizes Ecology to collect fees yearly to administer the Landfill Methane Program for Washington State Landfills. The current workload model shows an additional $400,950 will be needed in the 2027-29 biennium for the program to be fully supported.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No Change

9. Changes in Methodology: No change

10. RecSum Code: DA

11. Alternatives: No alternatives were considered.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request does not expand a current program or service. The Legislature adopted Chapter 70A.540 RCW in 2022, and this request will just provide the expenditure authority needed to spend the fee revenue collected once rulemaking is completed.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs for 1.0 FTE Environmental Engineer 3 beginning in fiscal year 2028 and ongoing to cover costs associated with implementing the Landfill Methane Program. This position will oversee compliance with the new rule when it's adopted. Under that rule, fees will be calculated and assessed via a biennial workload model beginning in the 2027-29 biennium, and this FTE will be funded through those fees.

Revenue amounts starting in fiscal year 2028 reflect the fees that will be collected starting in 2027-29 to cover the costs of implementing Chapter 173-408 WAC, Landfill Methane Emissions.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
A	Salaries and Wages	113,730	113,730	113,730	113,730	113,730	113,730
B	Employee Benefits	35,597	35,597	35,597	35,597	35,597	35,597
E	Goods and Services	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531
G	Travel	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931
J	Capital Outlays	605	605	605	605	605	605
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	43,081	43,081	43,081	43,081	43,081	43,081
	Total Objects	**200,475**	**200,475**	**200,475**	**200,475**	**200,475**	**200,475**

Staffing

Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER 3	113,730	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Total FTEs		**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	**FY2029**
FTE (xx direct FTE)	0.0	0.0
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.3: Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability

This request will allow Ecology to spend fees that we plan to collect to implement the Landfill Methane Program, resulting in reductions of methane and other criteria and toxic air pollutants that have harmful health effects.

Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts
Objective 2.1: Decrease greenhouse gas emissions rapidly and equitably across the state to meet 2030, 2040, and 2050 statutory emissions limits.

This request will provide funding for Ecology to implement requirements to reduce emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, from MSW landfills.

Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution
Objective 3.3: Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will reduce methane emissions, criteria air pollution, and toxic air pollution in communities across Washington.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – This request will help Washington meet climate goals while improving air quality and reducing harmful co-pollutants.

Governance – This request will provide Ecology with the means to access funding to support effective implementation of this program.

Performance Outcomes:

Expected performance outcomes include:

- Ecology will be able to access funding to oversee effective implementation of the Landfill Methane Program.
- Reduced emissions of methane, a potent greenhouse gas, and criteria air pollutants and toxic air pollutants through implementation of the Landfill Methane Program.
- Improved public?health outcomes,?including?reduced respiratory disease, cardiovascular disease, and?premature death.
- Improved compliance with the landfill methane emissions law and rule.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

Ecology conducted outreach with overburdened communities and vulnerable populations in the summer of 2025 to gather input on an environmental justice assessment conducted in support of our agency request legislation, which resulted in passage and enactment of SB 6151 (Chapter 87, laws of 2026). This included distributing information about the legislation by e-mail, holding a public meeting, and holding a public comment period. Ecology also offered Government-to-Government consultation with Tribes and held a Tribal Forum.

Ecology will also reach out to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations during the fee rulemaking. As part of the rulemaking process, Ecology will conduct an environmental justice assessment, offer Tribal consultation, and will conduct an analysis to examine any downstream economic impacts of fees imposed on MSW landfills.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

MSW landfills are a significant source of methane emissions in Washington. The impacts associated with emissions of methane and other compounds contained in landfill gas are disproportionately borne by overburdened and vulnerable communities, including Tribes. Methane is a key precursor to the formation of ground level ozone, which is classified as a criteria air pollutant by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. When breathed in, ozone can irritate and inflame the respiratory tract, causing symptoms such as coughing, chest tightness, shortness of breath, and wheezing, and these effects can be more serious in people with lung diseases.

Landfill methane is also known to contain small percentages of toxic air pollutants that are harmful to human health. Additionally, methane is a very potent greenhouse gas, with approximately 80 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide over a 20-year period. The longer-term harm of climate impacts such as increasingly extreme fire, heat, and flooding events are shown to have the greatest impact on overburdened populations. This budget request will enable Ecology to continue implementing regulations that reduce these pollutants.

Target Communities and Populations:

This request is intended to benefit people living near MSW landfills, especially vulnerable and overburdened populations more susceptible to health impacts from increased ozone and toxic air pollutants. Additionally, all populations impacted by climate change, especially overburdened communities, vulnerable populations, and Tribes who bear the brunt of weather extremes and other outcomes of a warming planet—will benefit from this request.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

This request will support the 2026-2030 Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation through the following Strategies and Actions: Human Health 03.02.

State Workforce Impacts:

This request will support funding for an Environmental Engineer 3 position to oversee the reporting and compliance requirements under Chapter 173-408 WAC.

Intergovernmental:

Counties that operate MSW landfills will be impacted when Ecology charges fees to cover the costs of implementing the Landfill Methane Program. The Washington Association of Counties was in support of Ecology's agency request legislation in 2026 because it helped ensure that fees paid by counties will be used as intended and will go directly to implement the program.

Stakeholder Impacts:

N/A

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

This request broadly implements the following actions in the Governor's Salmon Strategy:

Action 4b - Build climate resiliency by reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, expand programs to sequester carbon and improve habitat conditions.

Reference Documents

Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$114	$114	**$228**	$114	$114	**$228**
Obj. B	$35	$35	**$70**	$35	$35	**$70**
Obj. E	$5	$5	**$10**	$5	$5	**$10**
Obj. G	$2	$2	**$4**	$2	$2	**$4**
Obj. J	$1	$1	**$2**	$1	$1	**$2**
Obj. T	$43	$43	**$86**	$43	$43	**$86**

Agency Contact Information

Kathy Taylor
(360) 584-5104
ktay461@ecy.wa.gov

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

Municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills are a significant source of methane emissions in Washington. There are potential benefits associated with emissions reduction of methane and other compounds contained in landfill gas which are disproportionately borne by overburdened and vulnerable communities, including Tribes. Since methane is a key precursor to the formation of ground level (tropospheric) ozone and also hazardous air pollutants and toxic compounds that are harmful to human health, this action would have a direct benefit to those living, playing and working adjacent to, and or in the airshed, of landfills.

Additionally, methane is a very potent greenhouse gas, with approximately 80 times the global warming potential of carbon dioxide over a 20-year period. The longer-term harm of climate impacts such as increasing extreme fire, heat and flooding events are shown to have the greatest impact on overburdened populations and Tribes. This fee capture will enable Ecology AQP to continue implementing regulations that reduce these pollutants, such as through combustion of landfill gas, which destroys methane as well as other hazardous air pollutants contained in the gas.

Potential harm to communities of the requested action would be the possible increase in landfill fees that would have a disproportionate impact on lower income households. Ecology plans to further examine any downstream economic impacts of an increase in fees.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   Not applicable.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   Yes, this budget request directly supports the Ecology's 2025-2030 Strategic Plan goals, particularly: Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees Goal 2: Reduce and prepare for climate impacts; Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   Not applicable.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   Not applicable.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   Not applicable.

Tab C-3 Prevent and Reduce Waste, Toxic Threats, and Pollution..... 195

1. PL DC Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees..... 197

2. PL DB Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program..... 233

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Agency Recommendation Summary

Washington's current hazardous waste fee system inequitably apportions fees, with some businesses paying significantly more per pound than others. Businesses that reach the upper limit set on hazardous waste generation fees are no longer incentivized to reduce their waste or use of toxics. Facilities treating, storing, and disposing of dangerous waste may pay no fees, requiring Ecology to draw on other funding sources to pay for waste reduction and pollution prevention work. Revising the hazardous waste fee assessment will create a transparent and equitable system with sustainable funding for directly related pollution prevention and toxics reduction work. This request is related to implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda. (Hazardous Waste Assistance Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	0.6	3.3	**1.95**	3.7	0.0	**1.85**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 207 - 1	$167	$510	**$677**	$571	$0	**$571**
Total Expenditures	**$167**	**$510**	**$677**	**$571**	**$0**	**$571**
Revenue						
207 - 0294	$688	$708	**$1,396**	$728	$728	**$1,456**
Total Revenue	**$688**	**$708**	**$1,396**	**$728**	**$728**	**$1,456**

Decision Package Description

Background:
Currently, Ecology charges two annual fees to Washington businesses that generate dangerous waste, such as antifreeze, solvents, dry cleaning chemicals, and fluorescent bulbs containing mercury.

Generation Fee: All dangerous waste generators pay a small annual fee ($69 for 2026), authorized by RCW 70A.218.020: Hazardous waste generation—Fee. After the current version of the fee law was adopted in 1990, the fee was adjusted annually for inflation from 1991 through 2001. From 2002 through 2009, the fee was not adjusted and remained at $46. In 2010, the inflationary calculations were performed, but the fee remained at $46 due to low inflation rates that year. The fee has been adjusted annually since that time. Had the fee been adjusted each year since enactment, the current fee would be approximately $103 for 2026. As a result of this under-adjustment, this fee generates approximately $721,000 less revenue annually than it would have with proper adjustments.

Planning Fee: Businesses that annually generate more than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste or report the release of certain toxic chemicals into the environment pay an additional Pollution Planning (P2) fee based on how much dangerous waste they create each year (authorized by RCW 70A.218.030: Voluntary reduction plan—Fees). Businesses either pay a minimum fee ($85/year in 2026), maximum fee ($27,674/year in 2026), or a fee calculated per pound of regulated waste generated. The method of calculating the fee creates significant inequity among fee payers, with the largest generators paying the smallest fee per pound of waste. For 2026, P2 fees ranged from $85–$27,674 per business.

Both the Generation and Planning fees are adjusted for inflation each year, but Ecology is not authorized to change what fees are assessed nor how those fees are calculated. The revenue generated by these fees is deposited into the Hazardous Waste Assistance Account (HWAA). Ecology uses these funds to review pollution prevention plans, provide technical assistance and compliance education, and help businesses implement savings identified in their plans.

Permitting Fee: Unlike most other states, Washington does not charge dangerous waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities (TSDFs) a permit application or an annual operating fee. Permits for these facilities are extensive and can take several months to years for Ecology to process and complete to ensure they meet state and federal requirements. Funding for this work currently comes from federal grants and the state's Model Toxics Control Act Operating Account (MTCA Operating), both of which are no longer reliable or stable sources of funding.

This budget request accompanies Ecology's agency request legislation (ARL) proposing statutory changes and minimal state funding allocations to resource an independent contractor to lead a work group of interested parties in developing fee structure options starting in fiscal year 2028 and to conduct rulemaking and public engagement to ultimately implement a new fee structure by fiscal year 2030.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
No

Problem/Opportunity:
The current fee structure creates two main issues. First, the way hazardous waste fees are assessed creates significant inequity among fee payers:

- The P2 fee calculation results in the largest generators paying the smallest fee per pound of waste, offering limited incentives for them to reduce their waste generation.
- Unlike most other states, Washington does not charge dangerous waste TSDFs an application or annual fee for their operating permits. These large permits require significant Ecology resources to review, work with operators to adjust, and approve over the course of several months to years.

Second, the annual revenue generated by these fees is approximately $1.5 million lower than our expenditure authority for the HWAA at carryforward level for 2027-29, creating an ongoing structural deficit in this account. Historically, Ecology has relied on our other funding sources, such as federal grants and MTCA Operating, to address this deficit. However, both these funding sources have become unreliable and unstable for both current and future work.

Proposed Solution:
This request and the accompanying ARL propose revising how hazardous waste fees are assessed in Washington. Ecology will create a new, more equitable system in rule, replacing the existing statute, and providing more robust resources for the work Ecology is directed to do by the Legislature.

This solution will immediately:

- Increase the annual hazardous waste generation fee to $105, beginning July 1, 2027, to compensate for the inflationary adjustments that did not occur between 2002 and 2009 and include anticipated inflation in fiscal year 2027.
- Increase the maximum annual revenue for the hazardous waste P2 fee from $2,767,400 to $3 million beginning July 1, 2027.
- Increase the number of small generators who are exempt from the fee by increasing the eligibility threshold from $12,000 annual gross revenue to $35,000 annual gross revenue. This eligibility threshold has not been adjusted since the hazardous waste fees were first established. We estimate that increasing the eligibility threshold to account for inflation will exempt 2,317 businesses that are currently subject to the hazardous waste generation fee.

At the same time, Ecology will:

- Resource an independent contractor to lead a work group of interested parties in developing fee structure options in fiscal year 2028.
- Resource rulemaking and public engagement to ultimately implement a new fee structure by fiscal year 2030. Once a new fee structure is adopted in rule, the statute establishing the existing hazardous waste generation and P2 fees will be repealed.

Impacts on Population Served:
Fees will increase for some Washington businesses that generate dangerous waste. However, fees will be applied more equitably to fee payers, so businesses that generate the most dangerous waste or use more toxic chemicals in their processes pay the highest fees. We will be able to provide more technical assistance and compliance education assistance to hazardous substance users and waste generators. Higher fees will incentivize Washington businesses to reduce the amount of dangerous waste they generate and toxic chemicals they use, benefiting human health and the environment.

Alternatives Explored:
Alternatives we explored included either making no changes to the hazardous waste fees or requesting specific changes to the fee statute. If we make no changes to the hazardous waste fees, we would remain reliant on MTCA Operating funds to supplement this work, and inequities among fee payers would continue.

If we alter the fees in statute, rather than removing them, regulated parties would not have the same opportunity for input on a proposed new fee structure like they could through the rulemaking process. The rulemaking process allows for extended discussions with all stakeholders in a more deliberative process when compared to the rush of legislative session. This process will also allows Ecology to proactively engage with stakeholders rather than placing the burden on them to track and respond to bills that may impact them.

Moving the fees out of statute and into rule is a tried and tested approach that Ecology has already successfully used to adjust domestic wastewater discharge fees in Senate Bill 5585 (2022).

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:
If this request is not funded, we would remain reliant on MTCA Operating (whose forecasted revenues have been steadily declining) to supplement this work, and inequities among fee payers would continue. Taxpayers would continue to subsidize pollution prevention work, rather than the businesses who generate the most dangerous waste.

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Hazardous Waste Generation Fee, Hazardous Waste Planning Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

Hazardous Waste Generation Fee:
FY 2026: $69 per hazardous waste generator (actual)
FY 2027: $70 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)
FY 2028: $71 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)
FY 2029: $72 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)
FY 2030: $73 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)
FY 2031: $74 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)

This fee is adjusted annually for inflation if the adjustment is at least a $1 increment. The above rates assume that fees will increase by 1.5% each year, rounded to the nearest dollar.

Hazardous Waste Planning Fee:
FY 2026: $2,767,400 maximum revenue; $27,674 maximum fee for an individual facility (actual)
FY 2027: $2,808,911 maximum revenue; $28,089 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)
FY 2028: $2,851,045 maximum revenue; $28,510 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)
FY 2029: $2,893,811 maximum revenue; $28,934 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)
FY 2030: $2,937,218 maximum revenue; $29,372 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)
FY 2031: $2,981,276 maximum revenue; $29,813 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)

This fee is adjusted annually for inflation. The above rates assume that fees will increase by 1.5% each year, rounded to the nearest dollar.

3. Proposed Rate:

Hazardous Waste Generation Fee
FY 2028: $105 per hazardous waste generator
FY 2029: $107 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)
FY 2030: $109 per hazardous waste generator (estimated)

This fee is adjusted annually for inflation if the adjustment is at least a $1 increment. The above rates assume that fees will increase by 1.5% each year, beginning in fiscal year 2029, rounded to the nearest dollar. We assume that this fee will be repealed in FY 2031 once a new fee schedule is adopted through rulemaking in FY 2030, as would be required by the accompanying request legislation.

Hazardous Waste Planning Fee
FY 2028: $3,000,000 maximum revenue; $30,000 maximum fee for an individual facility
FY 2029: $3,045,000 maximum revenue; $30,450 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)
FY 2030: $3,090,675 maximum revenue; $30,907 maximum fee for an individual facility (estimated)

This fee is adjusted annually for inflation. The above rates assume that fees will increase by 1.5% each year, beginning in fiscal year 2029, rounded to the nearest dollar. We assume that this fee will be repealed in FY 2031 once a new fee schedule is adopted through rulemaking in FY 2030, as would be required by the accompanying request legislation.

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Hazardous Waste Generation Fee
FY 2028: $34, 48%
FY 2029: $2, 1.9%
FY 2030: $2, 1.9%

Hazardous Waste Planning Fee
FY 2028: $148,955, 5.2%
FY 2029: $45,000, 1.5%
FY 2030: $45,675, 1.5%

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Hazardous Waste Generation Fee
FY 2028: $543,200
FY 2029: $561,017
FY 2030: $578,834

The above calculations assume the number of fee payers will remain constant each year (26,724), and we will collect 73% of total fees assessed due to waivers, exemptions, and non-responders. We assume that this fee will be repealed in FY 2031 once a new fee schedule is adopted through rulemaking in FY 2030. We assume that the revenue generated by the new fee schedule would, at a minimum, be sufficient to compensate for the revenue lost by repealing the hazardous waste generation fee.

Hazardous Waste Planning Fee
FY 2028: $145,231
FY 2029: $147,409
FY 2030: $149,620

The above calculations assume the number of fee payers will remain constant each year (484) and we will collect 97.5% of total fees assessed due to refunds and adjustments. We assume that this fee will be repealed in FY 2031 once a new fee schedule is adopted through rulemaking in FY 2030. We assume that the revenue generated by the new fee schedule would, at a minimum, be sufficient to compensate for the revenue lost by repealing the hazardous waste planning fee.

Attachment A – Modernizing Fees Revenue Detail shows a detailed breakdown of the above revenue calculations through FY 2037.

7. Justification:
Currently, Ecology charges two fees to Washington businesses that generate dangerous waste. All dangerous waste generators pay a small annual fee ($69 for 2026). Additionally, businesses that generate more than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste per year or report certain toxic releases pay a P2 fee that is based on how much dangerous waste they create each year. For 2026, the maximum revenue that can be collected for the P2 fee is $2,767,400, with a maximum fee of $27,674 for an individual facility.

The annual revenue generated by these fees is approximately $1.5 million lower than our expenditure authority for the HWAA, creating an ongoing structural deficit in this account. Although we have been using federal grants and MTCA Operating to supplement this work, the fund balance in the HWAA continues to decline. An immediate increase in both fees is needed to avoid entering a negative fund balance before a more sustainable and equitable fee structure is identified and implemented through rulemaking.

8. Changes in Who Pays: The proposed ARL increases the number of small generators who are exempt from the fee by increasing the eligibility threshold from $12,000 annual gross revenue to $35,000 annual gross revenue. We estimate that increasing the eligibility threshold will exempt 2,317 businesses that are currently subject to the hazardous waste generation fee. There will be no changes to who pays the P2 fee.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change

10. RecSum Code: DC

11. Alternatives: We could make no immediate change to the hazardous waste generation and P2 fees and instead wait until a new fee structure is identified and adopted through rulemaking. In the meantime, we will remain reliant on MTCA Operating funds to supplement this work. Immediately increasing the fees will allow us to "level-set" while we identify a more sustainable and equitable fee structure.

12. Statutory Change Required?
Yes

This decision package accompanies agency request legislation that would, first increase fees in statute through FY 2030, and then remove the fees from statute (Chapter 70A.218 RCW Hazardous Waste Fees), and allow us to develop a new fee structure through rulemaking.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request will expand Activity **A019, Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information,** by engaging with interested parties and the regulated community to identify a new fee structure. Below is a summary of the 2023-25 and 2025-27 base funding and FTEs for this activity. Administrative Overhead related to this activity is also in Ecology's Administration Activity A002, but is not shown in the totals below.

A019 Support and Engage our Communities and Provide Hazardous Substance and Waste Information		
	2023-25	**2025-27**
FTEs Total	24.8	25.0
001-2 General Fund – Federal	$435,000	$501,000
163-1 Worker and Community Right to Know	$1,752,000	$1,739,000
207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance	$1,906,000	$1,914,000
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating	$2,406,000	$2,600,000
TOTAL	**$6,499,000**	**$6,755,000**

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Fee Structure Development
Ecology will hire an independent contractor to facilitate a work group to develop options for a new fee structure to replace the two existing fees. The consultant will convene the work group of regulated and interested parties, conduct an analysis of how other states implement hazardous waste fees, develop recommendations for a new fee structure, and prepare a report with these recommendations. Ecology estimates the cost to hire this consultant will be $100,000 in fiscal year 2028.

Rulemaking
Once fee structure recommendations are completed, Ecology will adopt rules to implement the new fee structure. Ecology estimates the rulemaking will be highly complex and generate significant public interest and input. It will require two years, from July 1, 2028, through June 30, 2030. The rulemaking will include three in-person pre-proposal meetings, with virtual webinar options, to gather input from interested parties and develop an Environmental Justice Assessment. We will then accept comments on the rule proposal during three in-person public hearings, with virtual webinar options. Ecology assumes $5,000 per meeting/hearing to cover room rental ($1,000 per meeting/hearing) and facilitators ($4,000 per meeting/hearing).

Ecology will also require the following staff resources during the rulemaking process:

- Rulemaking coordinator: 0.85 FTE Environmental Specialist 5 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030.
- Technical lead: 0.75 FTE Chemist 4 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030.
- Subject matter expert: 0.50 FTE Natural Resource Scientist 3 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030.
- Public engagement: 0.25 FTE Environmental Specialist 4 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030.
- 0.25 FTE Economic Analyst 3 in fiscal year 2030.

- 0.10 FTE Regulatory Analyst 2 in fiscal year 2030.

The statute establishing the existing hazardous waste generation and P2 fees will be repealed after the new fee structure is adopted in rule, consistent with Ecology's ARL. We assume the revenue generated by the new fee structure will, at a minimum, be sufficient to compensate for the revenue lost by repealing the statute establishing the hazardous waste generation and P2 fees.

Communications & Outreach
Communications and public information planning and implementation will require 0.50 FTE Communications Consultant 3 from fiscal year 2028 through fiscal year 2030.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
A	Salaries and Wages	37,375	279,903	314,355			
B	Employee Benefits	11,698	87,610	98,393			
C	Personal Service Contract	100,000	12,000	12,000			
E	Goods and Services	2,766	18,764	20,700			
G	Travel	966	5,504	6,180			
J	Capital Outlays	303	1,725	1,937			
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	13,986	104,741	117,633			
	Total Objects	**167,094**	**510,247**	**571,198**	**0**	**0**	**0**

Staffing Job Class	Salary	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 5	100,490		0.85	0.85			
CHEMIST 4	113,734		0.75	0.75			
NATURAL RESOURCE SCIENTIST 3	98,067		0.50	0.50			
ENVIRONMENTAL SPEC 4	91,102		0.25	0.25			
ECONOMIC ANALYST 3	100,490			0.25			
REGULATORY ANALYST 2	93,293			0.10			
COMMUNICATIONS CONSULTANT 3	74,750	0.50	0.50	0.50			
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.05	0.29	0.32			
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		0.03	0.14	0.16			
Total FTEs		**0.58**	**3.28**	**3.68**	**0.00**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object
Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.
Contracts include $100,000 in fiscal year 2028 for an independent contractor, as well as $12,000 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030 to cover facilitator costs for six rulemaking meetings/hearings.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE.
Goods and Services also include $3,000 in fiscal years 2029 and 2030 to cover room rental for six rulemaking meetings/hearings.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	FY2029
FTE (xx direct FTE)	29.2	27.6
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$5,275,000	$5,314,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$5,275,000	$5,314,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002, but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.1 Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services

This request will allow interested parties, including regulated businesses, to participate in revising Washington's hazardous waste fees and adopt a more sustainable and transparent fee system. Ensuring stakeholder input will improve buy-in from the regulated community and perceptions of fairness.

Objective 1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability

This request will help align revenues with the corresponding state spending.

Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution
Objective 3.1 Reduce or prevent the use or release of toxic chemicals in products and business processes

Objective 3.2 Decrease waste generation and inefficient use of materials

Objective 3.3 Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will provide an opportunity to align hazardous waste fees with activities and businesses that are responsible for increased pollution risk from dangerous waste generation and toxic chemical use. Currently, the biggest potential polluters are paying some of the lowest fees per pound of waste and less risky businesses and wastes pay relatively higher fees. This request will make fees proportionate and incentivize reduction of waste and toxic chemical usage.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Economy – Ecology's technical and compliance assistance helps businesses reduce reliance on toxic chemicals and properly manage dangerous waste, reducing risks and costs of mismanagement. Our pollution prevention services have a track record of helping businesses find and implement pollution prevention measures that also save businesses money.

Climate and Environment – In addition to cost efficiencies, Ecology's technical assistance for businesses leads to reduced risk of toxic releases, lower environmental footprints, and safer workplaces.

Governance – Sustainable funding sources and mechanisms will allow Ecology to continue offering compliance, technical assistance, and pollution prevention services to dangerous waste generators, protecting Washington communities from pollution and exposures.

Performance Outcomes:

The following outcomes are expected:

- Engaging with dangerous waste generators (fee payers) and other affected and interested parties to identify new dangerous waste fee structure options.
- Adopting rules, including public engagement, to implement a new fee structure.
- Assessing clear and understandable fees that are more equitable and better aligned with program activities.
- Incentivizing businesses to use fewer toxic chemicals and generate less dangerous waste.
- Funding required agency activities benefiting dangerous waste businesses and TSDFs through fees rather than relying on taxpayers.
- Improving consistency between Washington's dangerous waste related fees and other states.
- Continuing to fund Ecology services that provide generators and communities with information about dangerous waste management and toxic chemicals.
- Continuing to allow Ecology to permit TSDFs and share information that can help businesses reduce their risks and costs and help reduce exposures and pollution to workers, communities, and the environment. This could include offsetting some funding reductions from federal grants and state MTCA account shortfalls.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

Outreach was conducted to selected groups that represent overburdened communities and workers disproportionately exposed to hazardous waste and/or toxic chemicals, including coalitions like Front and Centered, NW Toxic Communities, and several labor unions. These groups received an email introducing them to our ARL draft bill and were invited to a listening session to learn more. They were also b given the opportunity to correspond with Ecology for further discussion. This engagement was completed in late August 2026.

All Tribes received an agency letter notifying them of this action and were invited to comment and attend a listening session. Specific Tribes that own potentially impacted businesses and the Puyallup Tribe, which has delegated regulatory authority to Ecology and may be impacted, were emailed more detail and an invitation for further discussion. This engagement was completed in late August 2026.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Changes to hazardous waste fees could have effects on both vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. Workers who are at higher risk of exposure to toxic chemicals are the vulnerable population most affected by any potential changes. Overburdened communities are those who live closer to polluters and bear an oversized burden of environmental health issues. If the ultimate fee restructuring leads to an overall increase in funds, whether minimal (such as an adjustment for inflation) or more substantial (such as instituting new fees for TSDFs), there will be more funding for Ecology to provide technical assistance to reduce waste and risk to the public. This could also provide resources for workers and adjacent communities. The more funds available to Ecology to improve management and reduce use of toxic chemicals, the more vulnerable populations can be protected. If the change in fees creates an incentive to reduce dangerous waste generation, that will potentially improve health impacts to both the workers of these businesses and the communities adjacent to them.

No Tribal entities currently pay the P2 Fee, but four Tribes pay the Generation Fee for Tribal-owned companies: Quinault Indian Nation, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis, and the Makah Tribal Council.

An additional five fee-paying companies appear on a “Washington State Native Business Directory.” It appears these companies are all owned by Tribal members instead of by Tribes, but we cannot ensure Tribes or Tribal entities do not have any ownership interests in these companies.

Target Communities and Populations:

This request to modernize the fees for generators of dangerous waste will provide fee equity across regulated businesses and potentially incentivize those businesses to reduce their dangerous waste. This has the potential to benefit workers exposed to toxic chemicals and dangerous waste and communities adjacent to industrial areas where they are disproportionately exposed to environmental pollution. This applies across the state of Washington where there are regulated businesses, but heavily impacts the Puget Sound region’s industrial and urban areas where more polluting businesses are located and the number of people with cumulative environmental health burdens is higher.

There is no focused or strategic intended benefit to overburdened communities at this point but, as mentioned previously, it is likely the risk of exposure to toxic chemicals and dangerous waste will decrease in these populations and communities if the change in fees incentivizes pollution reduction and if fee increases fund technical assistance that reduces pollution and consequently risk to disproportionately exposed populations.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

This request will support the 2026-2030 Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation through the following linkages:

Strategies & Action

- Toxic Chemical Prevention 01.03
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.02, and 03.03
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 05.02, and 05.06
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 06.02
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 08.01

Commitments

- ECY-013 - Washington State Department of Ecology (ECY) will implement actions in the 6PPD Action Plan through 2027.
- ECY-032 - Washington Department of Ecology (ECY) will assist businesses and other entities in replacing hazardous or toxic chemicals with safer alternatives through its technical assistance programs through 2030.

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

The Department of Revenue (DOR) currently assists with identifying businesses that are subject to the Generation Fee. Depending on the form the final rule takes, DOR could become more involved with collecting fees or identifying businesses subject to fees.

No Tribal entities currently pay the P2 Fee, but four Tribes pay the Generation fee for Tribal-owned companies: Quinault Indian Nation, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis, and the Makah Tribal Council.

Stakeholder Impacts:

- Permitted dangerous waste TSDFs.
- Dangerous waste and used oil recyclers and re-refiners that do not require a permit.
- Businesses, K-12 schools, colleges and universities, and other entities that generate dangerous waste.
- Businesses that use toxic chemicals in their manufacturing processes.
- Businesses conducting cleanups of sites contaminated with dangerous waste in Washington.
- Certain businesses with Washington landfill or surface impoundment locations for waste left in place.

Stakeholder support or opposition will depend in large part on whether they perceive they will be directly affected by increased fees.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

Chapter 70A.214 RCW Waste Reduction will be amended to clarify allowable uses of revenue generated by hazardous waste fees and the procedures governing penalty fees associated with non payment of fees.

Chapter 70A.218 RCW Hazardous Waste Fees will be amended to remove the fees from statute and direct Ecology to develop a new fee structure through rulemaking.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees-Attachment A.xlsx
Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees-Attachment B.pdf
Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees-HEAL Act.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$37	$280	**$317**	$314	$0	**$314**
Obj. B	$11	$87	**$98**	$98	$0	**$98**
Obj. C	$100	$12	**$112**	$12	$0	**$12**
Obj. E	$3	$19	**$22**	$21	$0	**$21**
Obj. G	$1	$5	**$6**	$6	$0	**$6**
Obj. J	$1	$2	**$3**	$2	$0	**$2**
Obj. T	$14	$105	**$119**	$118	$0	**$118**

Agency Contact Information

Katrina Lassiter
(360) 791-0879
klas461@ecy.wa.gov

Attachment A - Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees

Estimated Additional Revenue from Hazardous Waste Fees

Section 9:* Hazardous Waste Generation Fee	Estimated # of Fee Payers	Estimated % Collected	Estimated Revenue FY26	Estimated Revenue FY27	Estimated Revenue FY28	Estimated Revenue FY29	Estimated Revenue FY30	Estimated Revenue FY31	Estimated Revenue FY32	Estimated Revenue FY33	Estimated Revenue FY34	Estimated Revenue FY35	Estimated Revenue FY36	Estimated Revenue FY37
Current Fee	29,041	73.0%	$ 1,462,795	$ 1,483,995	$ 1,505,195	$ 1,526,395	$ 1,547,595	$ 1,568,795	$ 1,589,995	$ 1,611,195	$ 1,632,395	$ 1,653,595	$ 1,674,794	$ 1,695,994
Proposed Fee	26,724	73.0%	$ 1,462,795	$ 1,483,995	$ 2,048,395	$ 2,087,412	$ 2,126,429	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Variance			$ -	$ -	$ 543,200	$ 561,017	$ 578,834	$ (1,568,795)	$ (1,589,995)	$ (1,611,195)	$ (1,632,395)	$ (1,653,595)	$ (1,674,794)	$ (1,695,994)

Section 10:* Hazardous Waste Planning Fee	Annual Cap	Estimated % Collected	Estimated Revenue FY26	Estimated Revenue FY27	Estimated Revenue FY28	Estimated Revenue FY29	Estimated Revenue FY30	Estimated Revenue FY31	Estimated Revenue FY32	Estimated Revenue FY33	Estimated Revenue FY34	Estimated Revenue FY35	Estimated Revenue FY36	Estimated Revenue FY37
Current Fee	$2,767,400	97.5%	$ 2,698,215	$ 2,738,688	$ 2,779,769	$ 2,821,466	$ 2,863,788	$ 2,906,744	$ 2,950,345	$ 2,994,600	$ 3,039,520	$ 3,085,113	$ 3,131,389	$ 3,178,360
Proposed Fee	$3,000,000	97.5%	$ 2,698,215	$ 2,738,688	$ 2,925,000	$ 2,968,875	$ 3,013,408	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -
Variance			$ -	$ -	$ 145,231	$ 147,409	$ 149,620	$ (2,906,744)	$ (2,950,345)	$ (2,994,600)	$ (3,039,520)	$ (3,085,113)	$ (3,131,389)	$ (3,178,360)

Section 13:* New Hazardous Waste Fees	Annual Cap	Estimated % Collected	Estimated Revenue FY26	Estimated Revenue FY27	Estimated Revenue FY28	Estimated Revenue FY29	Estimated Revenue FY30	Estimated Revenue FY31	Estimated Revenue FY32	Estimated Revenue FY33	Estimated Revenue FY34	Estimated Revenue FY35	Estimated Revenue FY36	Estimated Revenue FY37
New Fee (Hazardous Waste Generation)			$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 2,147,629	$ 2,168,829	$ 2,190,029	$ 2,211,229	$ 2,232,429	$ 2,253,628	$ 2,274,828
New Fee (Hazardous Waste Planning)			$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 3,056,364	$ 3,099,965	$ 3,144,220	$ 3,189,140	$ 3,234,733	$ 3,281,009	$ 3,327,980
Total			$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 5,203,993	$ 5,268,794	$ 5,334,249	$ 5,400,369	$ 5,467,162	$ 5,534,637	$ 5,602,808
Incremental Change to Revenue			**$ -**	**$ -**	**$ 688,431**	**$ 708,426**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**	**$ 728,454**

* Represents section number in the agency request legislation bill.

BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: Z-0091.1/27

ATTY/TYPIST: RR:akl

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning fees supporting the responsible management of hazardous waste, responsible management of hazardous substances, and pollution prevention.

AN ACT Relating to fees supporting the responsible management of hazardous waste, responsible management of hazardous substances, and pollution prevention; amending RCW 70A.214.010, 70A.214.020, 70A.214.030, 70A.214.040, 70A.214.090, 70A.214.100, 70A.214.130, 70A.218.010, 70A.218.020, 70A.218.030, 70A.218.040, and 70A.218.060; adding new sections to chapter 70A.218 RCW; repealing RCW 70A.214.050, 70A.214.060, and 70A.214.070; and providing an expiration date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. RCW 70A.214.010 and 2020 c 20 s 1212 are each amended to read as follows:

The legislature finds that ((~~land~~)) disposal ((~~and incineration~~)) of solid and hazardous waste through landfilling, incineration, and other methods can be both harmful to the environment and costly to those who must dispose of the waste. In order to address this problem in the most cost-effective and environmentally sound manner, and to implement the highest waste management priority as articulated in RCW 70A.205.005 and 70A.300.260, public and private efforts should focus on reducing the generation of waste. Waste reduction can be achieved by encouraging voluntary efforts to redesign industrial, commercial, production, and other processes to result in the reduction or

elimination of waste by-products and to maximize the in-process reuse or reclamation of valuable spent material.

In the interest of protecting the public health, safety, and the environment, the legislature declares that it is the policy of the state of Washington to encourage reduction in the use of hazardous substances and reduction in the generation of hazardous waste whenever economically and technically practicable.

The legislature finds that hazardous wastes are generated by numerous different sources including, but not limited to, large and small ((~~business~~)) businesses, households, and state and local ((~~government~~)) governments. ((~~The legislature further finds that a goal against which efforts at waste reduction may be measured is essential for an effective hazardous waste reduction program. The Pacific Northwest hazardous waste advisory council has endorsed a goal of reducing, through hazardous substance use reduction and waste reduction techniques, the generation of hazardous waste by fifty percent by 1995. The legislature adopts this as a policy goal for the state of Washington.~~)) The legislature recognizes that many individual businesses have already reduced the generation of hazardous waste through appropriate hazardous waste reduction techniques. The legislature also recognizes that there are some basic industrial processes which by their nature have limited potential for significantly reducing the use of certain raw materials or substantially reducing the generation of hazardous wastes. ((~~Therefore, the goal of reducing hazardous waste generation by fifty percent cannot be applied as a regulatory requirement.~~)) The legislature also finds that businesses creating wastes regulated pursuant to the federal resource conservation and recovery act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq. and Washington's hazardous waste management act, chapter 70A.300 RCW should, to the extent practicable, bear the costs associated with those wastes, as to incentivize waste reduction and cover the costs of regulatory implementation.

Sec. 2. RCW 70A.214.020 and 2020 c 20 s 1213 are each amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Department" means the department of ecology.

(2) "Director" means the director of the department of ecology or the director's designee.

(3) "Dangerous waste" shall have the same definition as set forth in RCW 70A.300.010(1) and shall specifically include those wastes designated as dangerous by rules adopted pursuant to chapter 70A.300 RCW.

(4) "EPA/state identification number" means the number assigned by the EPA (environmental protection agency) or by the department of ecology to each generator and/or transporter and treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility.

(5) "Extremely hazardous waste" shall have the same definition as set forth in RCW 70A.300.010(7) and shall specifically include those wastes designated as extremely hazardous by rules adopted pursuant to chapter 70A.300 RCW.

(6) "Fee" means the annual hazardous waste fees imposed under RCW 70A.218.020 and 70A.218.030.

(7) "Generate" means any act or process which produces hazardous waste or first causes a hazardous waste to become subject to regulation.

(8) "Hazardous substance" means any hazardous substance listed as a hazardous substance as of March 21, 1990, pursuant to section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 11023), any other substance determined by the director by rule to present a threat to human health or the environment, and all ozone depleting compounds as defined by the Montreal Protocol of October 1987.

(9)(a) "Hazardous substance use reduction" means the reduction, avoidance, or elimination of the use or production of hazardous substances without creating substantial new risks to human health or the environment.

(b) "Hazardous substance use reduction" includes proportionate changes in the usage of hazardous substances as the usage of a hazardous substance or hazardous substances changes as a result of production changes or other business changes.

(10) "Hazardous substance user" means any facility required to report under section 313 of Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act, except for those facilities which only distribute or use fertilizers or pesticides intended for commercial agricultural applications.

(11) "Hazardous waste" means and includes all dangerous and extremely hazardous wastes, but does not include radioactive wastes or a substance composed of both radioactive and hazardous components

and does not include any hazardous waste generated as a result of a remedial action under state or federal law.

(12) "Hazardous waste generator" means any person generating hazardous waste regulated by the department.

(13) ((~~"Office" means the office of waste reduction.~~

~~(14)~~)) "Plan" means the plan provided for in RCW 70A.214.110.

((~~(15)~~)) (14) "Person" means an individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, partnership, association, state, public or private or municipal corporation, commission, political subdivision of a state, interstate body, the federal government, including any agency or officer thereof, and any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization.

((~~(16)~~)) (15) "Process" means all industrial, commercial, production, and other processes that result in the generation of waste.

((~~(17)~~)) (16) "Recycled for beneficial use" means the use of hazardous waste, either before or after reclamation, as a substitute for a commercial product or raw material, but does not include: (a) Use constituting disposal; (b) incineration; or (c) use as a fuel.

((~~(18)~~)) (17) "Recycling" means reusing waste materials and extracting valuable materials from a waste stream. Recycling does not include burning for energy recovery.

((~~(19)~~)) (18) "Treatment" means the physical, chemical, or biological processing of waste to render it completely innocuous, produce a recyclable by-product, reduce toxicity, or substantially reduce the volume of material requiring disposal as described in the priorities established in RCW 70A.300.260. Treatment does not include incineration.

((~~(20)~~)) (19) "Used oil" means (a) lubricating fluids that have been removed from an engine crankcase, transmission, gearbox, hydraulic device, or differential of an automobile, bus, truck, vessel, plane, heavy equipment, or machinery powered by an internal combustion engine; (b) any oil that has been refined from crude oil, used, and as a result of use, has been contaminated with physical or chemical impurities; and (c) any oil that has been refined from crude oil and, as a consequence of extended storage, spillage, or contamination, is no longer useful to the original purchaser. "Used oil" does not include used oil to which hazardous wastes have been added.

((~~(21)~~)) (20) "Waste" means any solid waste as defined under RCW 70A.205.015, any hazardous waste, any air contaminant as defined under RCW 70A.15.1030, and any organic or inorganic matter that shall cause or tend to cause water pollution as defined under RCW 90.48.020.

((~~(22)~~)) (21) "Waste generator" means any individual, business, government agency, or any other organization that generates waste.

((~~(23)~~)) (22) "Waste reduction" means all in-plant practices that reduce, avoid, or eliminate the generation of wastes or the toxicity of wastes, prior to generation, without creating substantial new risks to human health or the environment. As used in RCW 70A.214.110 through 70A.214.150, "waste reduction" refers to hazardous waste only.

Sec. 3. RCW 70A.214.030 and 2020 c 20 s 1214 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) ((~~There is established in the department an office of waste reduction.~~)) The ((~~office~~)) department shall use its authorities to encourage the voluntary reduction of hazardous substance usage and waste generation by waste generators and hazardous substance users. ((~~The office shall prepare and submit a quarterly progress report to the director.~~))

(2) The ((~~office~~)) department shall be the coordinating center for all state agency programs that provide technical assistance to waste generators and hazardous substance users and shall serve as the state's lead agency and promoter for such programs. In addition to this coordinating function, the ((~~office shall~~)) department may, as appropriate and as funding allows, encourage hazardous substance use reduction and waste reduction by:

(a) Providing for the rendering of advice and consultation to waste generators and hazardous substance users on hazardous substance use reduction and waste reduction techniques, including assistance in preparation of plans provided for in RCW 70A.214.110;

(b) Sponsoring or co-sponsoring with public or private organizations technical workshops and seminars on waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction;

(c) Administering a waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction database and hotline providing comprehensive referral services to waste generators and hazardous substance users;

(d) Administering a waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction research and development program;

(e) Coordinating a waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction public education program that includes the utilization of existing publications from public and private sources, as well as publishing necessary new materials on waste reduction;

(f) Recommending to institutions of higher education in the state courses and curricula in areas related to waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction; ((~~and~~))

(g) Operating an intern program in cooperation with institutions of higher education and other outside resources to provide technical assistance on hazardous substance use reduction and waste reduction techniques and to carry out research projects as needed within the office; and

(h) Coordinating with regulatory programs governing the use of harmful chemicals in consumer products and providing public education about restricted chemicals.

Sec. 4. RCW 70A.214.040 and 2020 c 20 s 1215 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The ((~~office~~)) department shall establish a waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction consultation program to be coordinated with other state waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction consultation programs.

(2) The ((~~director~~)) department may grant a request by any waste generator or hazardous substance user for advice and consultation on waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction techniques and assistance in preparation or modification of a plan, executive summary, or annual progress report, or assistance in the implementation of a plan required by RCW 70A.214.110. Pursuant to a request from a facility such as a business, governmental entity, or other process site in the state, the ((~~director~~)) department may visit the facility making the request for the purposes of observing hazardous substance use and the waste-generating process, obtaining information relevant to waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction, rendering advice, and making recommendations. No such visit may be regarded as an inspection or investigation, and no notices or citations may be issued, or civil penalty be assessed, upon such a visit. A representative of the ((~~director~~)) department

providing advisory or consultative services under this section may not have any enforcement authority.

(3) ((~~Consultation and advice given under this section shall be limited to the matters specified in the request and shall include specific techniques of waste reduction and hazardous substance use reduction tailored to the relevant process. In granting any request for advisory or consultative services, the director may provide for an alternative means of affording consultation and advice other than on-site consultation.~~

~~(4)~~)) Any proprietary information obtained by the ((~~director~~)) department while carrying out the duties required under this section shall remain confidential ((~~and shall not be publicized or become part of the database established under RCW 70A.214.060 without written permission of the requesting party~~)).

Sec. 5. RCW 70A.214.090 and 2015 c 225 s 107 are each amended to read as follows:

The legislature finds and declares that the buildings and facilities owned and leased by state government produce significant amounts of solid and hazardous wastes, and actions must be taken to reduce and recycle these wastes and thus reduce the costs associated with their disposal. In order for the operations of state government to provide the citizens of the state an example of positive waste management, the legislature further finds and declares that state government should undertake an aggressive program designed to reduce and recycle solid and hazardous wastes produced in the operations of state buildings and facilities to the maximum extent possible.

((~~The office of waste reduction, in cooperation with the department of enterprise services, shall establish an intensive waste reduction and recycling program to promote the reduction of waste produced by state agencies and to promote the source separation and recovery of recyclable and reusable materials.~~

~~All state agencies, including but not limited to, colleges, community colleges, universities, offices of elected and appointed officers, the supreme court, court of appeals, and administrative departments of state government shall fully cooperate with the office of waste reduction and recycling in all phases of implementing the provisions of this section. The office shall establish a coordinated state plan identifying each agency's participation in waste reduction and recycling. The office shall develop the plan in cooperation with~~

~~a multiagency committee on waste reduction and recycling. Appointments to the committee shall be made by the director of the department of enterprise services. The director shall notify each agency of the committee, which shall implement the applicable waste reduction and recycling plan elements. All state agencies are to use maximum efforts to achieve a goal of increasing the use of recycled paper by fifty percent by July 1, 1993.~~))

Sec. 6. RCW 70A.214.100 and 2024 c 341 s 205 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The ((~~office of waste reduction shall~~)) department may develop, in consultation with the superintendent of public instruction, an awards program to achieve waste reduction and recycling in public schools, and to encourage waste reduction and recycling in private schools, grades kindergarten through high school. The ((~~office shall~~)) department may develop guidelines for program development and implementation. Each public school shall, and each private school may, implement a waste reduction and recycling program conforming to guidelines developed by the ((~~office~~)) department.

(2) For the purpose of granting awards, the ((~~office~~)) department may group all participating schools into not more than three classes, based upon student population, distance to markets for recyclable materials, and other criteria, as deemed appropriate by the ((~~office~~)) department. Except as otherwise provided, five or more awards may be granted to each of the three classes. Each award shall be no more than $5,000 until 2026, and no more than $10,000 beginning January 1, 2026. Awards ((~~shall~~)) may be granted each year to the schools that achieve the greatest levels of waste reduction and recycling. A single award of not less than $5,000 until 2026 or $10,000 beginning in 2026 may be presented to the school having the best recycling program as measured by the total amount of materials recycled, including materials generated outside of the school. A single award of not less than $5,000 until 2026 or $10,000 beginning in 2026 may be presented to the school having the best waste reduction program as determined by the ((~~office~~)) department.

(3) The superintendent of public instruction shall distribute guidelines and other materials developed by the ((~~office~~)) department to implement programs to reduce and recycle waste generated in

administrative offices, classrooms, laboratories, cafeterias, and maintenance operations.

Sec. 7. RCW 70A.214.130 and 2020 c 20 s 1218 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) The department may review a plan, executive summary, or an annual progress report to determine whether the plan, executive summary, or annual progress report is adequate pursuant to the rules developed under this section and with the provisions of RCW 70A.214.110. In determining the adequacy of any plan, executive summary, or annual progress report, the department shall base its determination solely on whether the plan, executive summary, or annual progress report is complete and prepared in accordance with the provisions of RCW 70A.214.110.

(2) Plans developed under RCW 70A.214.110 shall be retained at the facility of the hazardous substance user or hazardous waste generator preparing a plan. The plan is not a public record under the public records act, chapter 42.56 RCW. A user or generator required to prepare a plan shall permit the director or a representative of the director to review the plan to determine its adequacy. No visit made by the ((~~director or a representative of the director~~)) department to a facility for the purposes of this subsection may be regarded as an inspection or investigation, and no notices or citations may be issued, nor any civil penalty assessed, upon such a visit.

(3) If a hazardous substance user or hazardous waste generator fails to complete an adequate plan, executive summary, or annual progress report, the department ((~~shall~~)) may notify the user or generator of the inadequacy, identifying specific deficiencies. For the purposes of this section, a deficiency may include failure to develop a plan, failure to submit an executive summary pursuant to the schedule provided in RCW 70A.214.110(5), and failure to submit an annual progress report pursuant to the rules developed under RCW 70A.214.110(6). The department ((~~shall~~)) may specify a reasonable time frame, of not less than ((~~ninety~~)) 90 days, within which the user or generator shall complete a modified plan, executive summary, or annual progress report addressing the specified deficiencies.

(4) If the department determines that a modified plan, executive summary, or annual progress report is inadequate, the department may,

within its discretion, either require further modification or enter an order pursuant to subsection (5)(a) of this section.

(5)(a) If, after having received a list of specified deficiencies from the department, a hazardous substance user or hazardous waste generator required to prepare a plan fails to complete modification of a plan, executive summary, or annual progress report within the time period specified by the department, the department may enter an order pursuant to chapter 34.05 RCW finding the user or generator not in compliance with the requirements of RCW 70A.214.110. When the order is final, the department shall ((~~notify the department of revenue to~~)) charge a penalty ((~~fee. The penalty fee shall be the greater of one thousand dollars or three times the amount of the user's or generator's previous year's fee, in addition to the current year's fee. If no fee was assessed the previous year, the penalty shall be the greater of one thousand dollars or three times the amount of the current year's fee~~)) as established pursuant to section 13 of this act. The penalty assessed under this subsection shall be collected each year after the year for which the penalty was assessed until an adequate plan or executive summary is completed.

(b) If a hazardous substance user or hazardous waste generator required to prepare a plan fails to complete an adequate plan, executive summary, or annual progress report after the department has levied against the user or generator the penalty provided in (a) of this subsection, the user or generator shall be required to pay a surcharge to the department whenever the user or generator disposes of a hazardous waste at any hazardous waste incinerator or hazardous waste landfill facility located in Washington state, until a plan, executive summary, or annual progress report is completed and determined to be adequate by the department. The surcharge shall be ((~~equal to three times the fee charged for disposal~~)) as established pursuant to section 13 of this act. The department shall furnish the incinerator and landfill facilities in this state with a list of environmental protection agency/state identification numbers of the hazardous waste generators that are not in compliance with the requirements of RCW 70A.214.110.

Sec. 8. RCW 70A.218.010 and 2020 c 20 s 1221 are each amended to read as follows:

As used in this chapter, the following terms have the meanings indicated unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Dangerous waste" shall have the same definition as set forth in RCW 70A.300.010(1) and shall include those wastes designated as dangerous by rules adopted pursuant to chapter 70A.300 RCW.

(2) "Dangerous waste recycler" or "dangerous waste recycling facility" means a facility that accepts and recycles wastes that are designated as dangerous waste under Washington state law but not designated as hazardous waste under federal law. A facility is not a "dangerous waste recycler" if it is subject to permitting requirements under the federal resource conservation and recovery act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq. even if it accepts and recycles Washington state-only dangerous wastes.

(3) "Department" means the department of ecology.

((~~(3)~~)) (4) "EPA/state identification number" means the number assigned by the EPA (environmental protection agency) or by the department of ecology to each generator and/or transporter and treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility.

((~~(4)~~)) (5) "Extremely hazardous waste" shall have the same definition as set forth in RCW 70A.300.010(7) and shall specifically include those wastes designated as extremely hazardous by rules adopted pursuant to chapter 70A.300 RCW.

((~~(5)~~)) (6) "Fee" means the ((~~annual~~)) fees imposed under this chapter.

((~~(6)~~)) (7) "Generate" means any act or process which produces hazardous waste or first causes a hazardous waste to become subject to regulation.

((~~(7)~~)) (8) "Hazardous waste" means and includes all dangerous and extremely hazardous wastes regulated under chapter 70A.300 RCW but for the purposes of this chapter excludes all radioactive wastes or substances composed of both radioactive and hazardous components.

((~~(8)~~)) (9) "Hazardous waste generator" means all persons whose primary business activities are identified by the department to generate any quantity of hazardous waste in the calendar year for which the fee is imposed.

((~~(9)~~)) (10) "Hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility" means a facility that is subject to permitting requirements pursuant to the federal resource conservation and recovery act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq. Facilities that have submitted an initial application but have not yet received a final permit and are listed as "interim status" are hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facilities for purposes of this chapter.

(11) "Person" means an individual, trust, firm, joint stock company, partnership, association, state, public or private or municipal corporation, commission, political subdivision of a state, interstate body, the federal government including any agency or officer thereof, and any Indian tribe or authorized tribal organization.

((~~(10)~~)) (12) "Price deflator" means the United States department of commerce bureau of economic analysis, "Implicit Price Deflator for Gross National Product" for "Government Purchases of Goods and Services," for "State and Local Government." Should the United States department of commerce cease publishing a "price deflator" as designated in this subsection, the department must designate in rule a substitute "price deflator."

((~~(11)~~)) (13) "Recycled for beneficial use" means the use of hazardous waste, either before or after reclamation, as a substitute for a commercial product or raw material, but does not include: (a) Use constituting disposal; (b) incineration; or (c) use as a fuel.

((~~(12)~~)) (14) "Waste generation site" means any geographical area that has been assigned an EPA/state identification number.

Sec. 9. RCW 70A.218.020 and 2020 c 20 s 1222 are each amended to read as follows:

A fee is imposed for the privilege of generating hazardous waste in the state. The annual amount of the fee shall be ((~~thirty-five dollars~~)) $105, to be adjusted for inflation pursuant to RCW 70A.218.040, upon every hazardous waste generator doing business in Washington in the current calendar year or any part thereof. This fee shall be collected by the department or its designee. A hazardous waste generator shall be exempt from the fee imposed under this section if the value of products, gross proceeds of sales, or gross income of the business, from all business activities of the hazardous waste generator, is less than ((~~twelve thousand dollars~~)) $35,000, to be adjusted for inflation pursuant to RCW 70A.218.040, in the current calendar year. The department shall, subject to appropriation, use the funds collected from the fees assessed in this subsection to support the activities ((~~of the office of waste reduction~~)) as specified in RCW ((~~70A.214.030~~)) 70A.218.060. The fee imposed pursuant to this section is due annually by ((~~July~~)) August 1st of the year following the calendar year for which the fee is imposed.

The annual fee established under this section is repealed on July 1st of the year following the department's adoption of rule establishing a fee schedule pursuant to section 13 of this act.

Sec. 10. RCW 70A.218.030 and 2020 c 20 s 1223 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Hazardous waste generators and hazardous substance users required to prepare plans under RCW 70A.214.110 shall pay an annual fee to support implementation of ((~~RCW 70A.214.110 and 70A.214.040~~)) chapter 70A.214 RCW. These fees are to be used by the department, subject to appropriation, for plan review, technical assistance ((~~to facilities that are required to prepare plans~~)), other activities related to plan development and implementation, and associated indirect costs.

(2) The total fees collected under this subsection shall not exceed the department's costs of implementing ((~~RCW 70A.214.110 and 70A.214.040~~)) chapter 70A.214 RCW and shall not exceed ((~~one million dollars~~)) $3,000,000 per year, to be adjusted for inflation pursuant to RCW 70A.218.040. The annual fee for a facility shall not exceed ((~~ten thousand dollars~~)) $30,000 per year, to be adjusted for inflation pursuant to RCW 70A.218.040.

(3) Any facility that generates less than ((~~two thousand six hundred forty~~)) 2,640 pounds of hazardous waste per waste generation site in the previous calendar year shall be exempt from the fee imposed by this section.

(4) The annual fee for a facility generating at least ((~~two thousand six hundred forty~~)) 2,640 pounds but not more than ((~~four thousand~~)) 4,000 pounds of hazardous waste per waste generation site in the previous calendar year shall not exceed ((~~fifty dollars~~)) $100, to be adjusted for inflation pursuant to RCW 70A.218.040.

(5) A person that develops a plan covering more than one interrelated facility as provided for in RCW 70A.214.110 shall be assessed ((~~fees only for the number of plans prepared. The department shall adopt a fee schedule by rule after consultation with typical affected businesses and other interested parties. Hazardous waste generated and recycled for beneficial use, including initial amount of hazardous substances introduced into a process and subsequently recycled for beneficial use, shall not be used in the calculations of hazardous waste generated for purposes of this section~~)) a fee for each facility.

(6) The annual fee imposed by this section shall be first due on ((~~July~~)) August 1st of the year prior to the year that the facility is required to prepare a plan, and by ((~~July~~)) August 1st of each year thereafter.

(7) The annual fee established under this section is repealed on July 1st of the year following adoption of rule establishing the new fee schedule pursuant to section 13 of this act.

Sec. 11. RCW 70A.218.040 and 2020 c 20 s 1224 are each amended to read as follows:

On an annual basis, the department shall adjust the fees and thresholds provided for in RCW 70A.218.020 and 70A.218.030((~~, including the maximum annual fee, and maximum total fees,~~)) by conducting the calculation in subsection (1) of this section and taking the actions set forth in subsection (2) of this section:

(1) In ((~~November~~)) February of each year, the fees, annual fee, and maximum total fees imposed in RCW 70A.218.020 and 70A.218.030, or as subsequently adjusted by this section, shall be multiplied by a factor equal to the most current quarterly "price deflator" available, divided by the "price deflator" used in the numerator the previous year. ((~~However, the "price deflator" used in the denominator for the first adjustment shall be defined by the second quarter "price deflator" for 1990.~~))

(2) Each year by March 1st the fee schedule, as adjusted in subsection (1) of this section will be published. The department will round the published fees to the nearest dollar.

Sec. 12. RCW 70A.218.060 and 2020 c 20 s 1226 are each amended to read as follows:

The hazardous waste assistance account is hereby created in the state treasury. The following moneys shall be deposited into the hazardous waste assistance account:

(1) Those revenues which are raised by the fees imposed under RCW 70A.218.020 ((~~and~~)), 70A.218.030, and section 13 of this act;

(2) Penalties and surcharges collected under chapter 70A.214 RCW and this chapter; and

(3) Any other moneys appropriated or transferred to the account by the legislature. Moneys in the hazardous waste assistance account may be spent only for the purposes of this chapter and chapters

70A.214, 70A.300, and 70A.415 RCW following legislative appropriation.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** A new section is added to chapter 70A.218 RCW to read as follows:

(1) It is the policy of the state of Washington that businesses creating and managing wastes regulated pursuant to the federal resource conservation and recovery act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq., and Washington's hazardous waste management act, chapter 70A.300 RCW shall, to the extent practicable, bear the costs associated with those wastes, as to incentivize waste reduction and cover the costs of regulatory implementation.

(2) The department shall establish fees to recover the costs of implementing and administering chapters 70A.214, 70A.300, and 70A.415 RCW. An initial fee schedule shall be established by rule no later than June 30, 2030, and be reviewed no more than once every five years. This fee schedule shall apply to all permits, permit modifications, plans, and other regulatory review activities as detailed in rule. Fees shall be assessed prospectively. Fees may not exceed expenses incurred by the department.

(3) When establishing a fee schedule, the department may identify a relevant fee for at least the following activities:

(a) The generation of hazardous waste;

(b) Submitting a permit application for a new hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility;

(c) Submitting a renewal application for a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility permit;

(d) Submitting a request to modify a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility permit;

(e) Operating a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility;

(f) Submitting a new permit application for post-closure activities at a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility;

(g) Submitting a renewal application for post-closure activities at a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility;

(h) Conducting post-closure activities at a hazardous waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility;

(i) Submitting an application, closure plan, or related documents for a new dangerous waste recycling facility;

(j) Submitting a request to modify operating documents for a dangerous waste recycling facility;

(k) Operating a dangerous waste recycling facility;

(l) Conducting hazardous waste cleanup activities;

(m) Submitting financial responsibility documents for a waste treatment, storage, and/or disposal facility or a dangerous waste recycling facility, including those conducting post-closure or corrective action activities;

(n) Filing reports pursuant to the federal emergency planning and community right to know act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 11001 et seq.;

(o) Storing chemicals listed as or containing ingredients listed as a "hazardous substance" under the comprehensive environmental response, compensation, and liability act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 9601 et seq.;

(p) Storing chemicals registered or containing ingredients registered under the federal insecticide, fungicide, and rodenticide act, 7 U.S.C. Sec. 136 et seq.;

(q) Manufacturing, distributing, or selling consumer products containing one or more hazardous substances, as defined in RCW 70A.300.010;

(r) Developing public notices and/or conducting a public hearing by the department;

(s) Submitting a petition to delist a federal waste pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6921;

(t) Submitting a petition for exclusion, exemption, and/or variance; and

(u) Submitting a request for a contained-in determination.

(4) Fees adopted in rule must be adjusted annually for inflation. The method of calculating inflation must follow the procedure detailed in RCW 70A.218.040.

(5) In assessing fees, the department shall seek to recover the costs of activities including, but not limited to:

(a) Processing permit applications, renewals, and modifications;

(b) Monitoring and evaluating compliance with permits;

(c) Conducting inspections;

(d) Securing laboratory analysis of samples taken during inspections;

(e) Reviewing plans and documents directly related to operations of permittees and other regulated businesses, including recycling facilities not subject to permit requirements;

(f) Reviewing petitions and making regulatory determinations;

(g) Conducting compliance and enforcement activities;

(h) Ensuring the department's compliance with federal requirements set by the United States environmental protection agency under the resource conservation and recovery act, 42 U.S.C. Sec. 6901 et seq.;

(i) Providing technical assistance to facilities that generate waste regulated under chapter 70A.300 RCW, businesses that use potentially harmful chemicals in their manufacturing processes, and businesses that produce or sell consumer products containing potentially harmful chemicals;

(j) Providing information and outreach to waste generators and the public about waste reduction techniques, hazardous substance use reduction, and sources of information about hazardous substances in their communities;

(k) Supporting related administrative overhead expenses; and

(l) Developing hazardous waste cleanup orders, decrees, cleanup action plans, and other related documents.

(6) When establishing a fee schedule, the department must:

(a) Prioritize proportionality among fee payers based on risk and volume of wastes; and

(b) Consider ways to minimize the economic impact of fees on small generators and public entities and may provide appropriate adjustments or waivers.

(7) Fees established under this section may be assessed annually, per hour, facility, pound, gallon, chemical, or any other relevant basis. When establishing a fee schedule, the department must identify the interval or basis for each fee assessed. The interval or basis for each fee may be changed in subsequent rule making.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 14.** A new section is added to chapter 70A.218 RCW to read as follows:

(1) The department must form an advisory committee to create recommendations for the fee schedule, and may hire an outside consultant to assist the advisory group in this work. The department must invite the following representatives to serve on the advisory committee, though may invite additional members as deemed warranted:

(a) At least one representative of a permitted waste treatment, storage, and disposal facility;

(b) At least one representative of a large quantity generator facility;

(c) At least one representative of a medium or small quantity generator facility;

(d) At least one representative of a nonprofit environmental organization; and

(e) At least one representative of a statewide business association.

(2) By December 31, 2028, the advisory committee must recommend fees that meet the requirements of section 13 of this act.

(3) The department must use the advisory committee recommendations as the basis for a new fee schedule adopted through rule making under chapter 34.05 RCW, but may adopt rules that differ from the recommendations if the recommendations are not feasible, practicable, or are determined to not meet the requirements of section 13 of this act. The department may also adopt rules that differ from the recommendations if necessary to comply with the administrative procedures act, chapter 34.05 RCW.

(4) The advisory committee shall, by a majority vote of all members present, make final recommendations to the department. If no majority is reached, the department may adopt a fee schedule that reflects the advisory committee's considerations to the extent practicable.

(5) This section expires June 30, 2029.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 15.** A new section is added to chapter 70A.218 RCW to read as follows:

All fees collected under this chapter shall be deposited in the hazardous waste assistance account created under RCW 70A.218.060.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 16.** The following acts or parts of acts are each repealed:

(1) RCW 70A.214.050 (Waste reduction techniques—Workshops and seminars) and 1988 c 177 s 5;

(2) RCW 70A.214.060 (Waste reduction hotline—Database system) and 1988 c 177 s 6; and

(3) RCW 70A.214.070 (Waste reduction research and development program—Contracts) and 2020 c 20 s 1216 & 1988 c 177 s 7.

--- END ---

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☒ Yes ☐ No

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ Yes ☒ No

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☐ Yes ☒ No

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

Changes to hazardous waste fees could have effects on both vulnerable populations and overburdened communities. Workers who are at higher risk of exposure to toxic chemicals are the vulnerable population most affected by any potential changes. Overburdened communities are those who live closer to polluters and bear an oversized burden of environmental health issues. If the ultimate fee restructuring leads to an overall increase in funds, whether minimal (such as an adjustment for inflation) or more substantial (such as instituting new fees for TSDFs), there will be more funding for Ecology to provide technical assistance to reduce waste and risk to the public. This could also provide resources for workers and adjacent communities. The more funds available to Ecology to improve management and reduce use of toxic chemicals, the more vulnerable populations can be protected. If the change in fees creates an incentive to reduce pollution generation, that will potentially improve health impacts to both the workers of these businesses and the communities adjacent to them.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   No. The outreach required by the environmental justice assessment, which is consistent with the intent of the HEAL Act (Chapter 70.A.02 RCW), was completed in late August 2026.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   Yes, this budget request is consistent with the strategic planning requirements of the HEAL Act. Specifically, it supports Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees, and to reduce environmental and health disparities and advance environmental justice by planning outreach efforts specifically to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, and by proposing to incentivize pollution reduction amongst regulated businesses.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   Outreach was conducted to selected groups that represent overburdened communities and workers disproportionately exposed to hazardous waste and/or toxic chemicals, including coalitions like Front and Centered, NW Toxic Communities, and several labor unions. These groups received an email introducing them to our agency request legislation draft bill and were invited

to a listening session to learn more. They were also given the opportunity to correspond with Ecology for further discussion. This engagement was completed in late August 2026.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   No Tribal entities currently pay the Pollution Planning Fee, but four Tribes pay the Generation Fee for Tribal-owned companies: Quinault Indian Nation, Swinomish Indian Tribal Community, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis, and the Makah Tribal Council. An additional five fee-paying companies appear on a "Washington State Native Business Directory." It appears these companies are all owned by Tribal members instead of by Tribes, but we cannot ensure Tribes or Tribal entities do not have any ownership interests in these companies.

   All Tribes received an agency letter notifying them of this action and were invited to comment and attend a listening session. Specific Tribes that own potentially impacted businesses and the Puyallup Tribe, which has delegated regulatory authority to Ecology and may be impacted, were emailed more detail and an invitation for further discussion. This engagement was completed in late August 2026

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   The environmental justice assessment is being used to analyze potential benefits and harms of this budget request, to assess the equitable distribution of services and benefits posed by this request, and also to conduct outreach to potentially impacted communities that fall within the HEAL Act definitions of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations. For example, the environmental justice assessment has determined that if this request were to lead to a significant increase in fees, like the elimination of a fee cap, or the implementation of a permit fee for treatment, storage, and disposal facilities, the action would mitigate environmental harms to adjacent overburdened

communities and workers disproportionately exposed to toxic chemicals and hazardous waste. The environmental justice assessment is also being used to map the geographic areas most impacted by fee modernization, which is influencing the outreach strategy.

Department of Ecology

2027-29 Regular Budget Session

Policy Level - DB - Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program

Agency Recommendation Summary

The Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program's (XVCP) existing staffing model no longer supports its current workload, nor long-term obligations. Rising personnel costs, growing covenant-driven review requirements, and other site support staff costs exceed the current spending authority from the Volunteer Cleanup Account. Additionally, having a single staff member supporting XVCP limits service continuity, cross training, and program resilience. There is sufficient funding to cover the costs of additional support, and this presents an opportunity to improve Ecology's responsiveness, strengthen operational stability, and ensure the program can grow and deliver consistent, customer focused service. This request is related to implementing the Puget Sound Action Agenda. (Voluntary Cleanup Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	1.2	1.2	**1.2**	1.2	1.2	**1.2**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 23P - 1	($78)	($78)	**($156)**	($78)	($78)	**($156)**
Fund 23V - 1	$299	$299	**$598**	$299	$299	**$598**
Total Expenditures	**$221**	**$221**	**$442**	**$221**	**$221**	**$442**
Revenue						
23V - 0434	$385	$385	**$770**	$385	$385	**$770**
Total Revenue	**$385**	**$385**	**$770**	**$385**	**$385**	**$770**

Decision Package Description

Background:

Washington's cleanup law, the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA), allows owners of contaminated properties to perform cleanups independently or under Ecology's supervision. Ecology-supervised cleanups, also known as formal cleanups, occur under an order or decree and are required for sites that are larger, more complex, or of significant public interest. These cleanups include public involvement opportunities and potentially liable parties (PLPs) to achieve regulatory closure by meeting the requirements of the order or decree.

Unless Ecology requires supervision, any contaminated site may be cleaned up independently. Independent cleanups are an important pathway for smaller or less complex sites and allow property owners to move forward without waiting for Ecology. However, the independent cleanup process does not provide assurance that the completed work is sufficient under MTCA. Owners must report these cleanups, but Ecology does not provide an opinion on the sufficiency of independent cleanups unless requested to do so.

Through Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP), owners of contaminated sites may request technical assistance and written opinions on whether their cleanup meets MTCA standards. These opinions are essential for property transactions, such as sales or financing.

Ecology's capacity to review independent cleanups under VCP has not kept pace with the demand for services. In strong real estate markets, demand can exceed Ecology's capacity to provide prompt assistance and review. Even during periods of slower economic growth, Ecology has experienced steady demand for VCP services with surges when the economy rebounds. In addition, real estate developers often need quick turnaround times on deliverables to meet compressed schedules and enable financial transactions.

To manage excess demand, Ecology developed a project wait list for VCP. This reportedly delayed or discouraged many independent cleanup and development projects, particularly those working with compressed schedules.

In response, Ecology worked with interested stakeholders to obtain legislative authority to establish a separate, expedited review process under VCP. SHB 1290 passed in 2019, and the Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program (XVCP) launched in July 2020. The program was designed to respond quickly and reliably to the needs of developers working under compressed schedules. XVCP operates on a cost-recovery model. Customers pay for the services they receive, and that revenue is deposited into a dedicated account that funds program operations, including staffing.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
No

Problem/Opportunity:

XVCP does not currently have sufficient spending authority from the Voluntary Cleanup Account to support its current workload, nor long-term obligations. When XVCP was originally established in 2019, funding was provided to support 1.0 Hydrogeologist 4 (HG4) position. However, since the program's inception, Ecology spending authority from the Voluntary Cleanup Account has not always been adjusted to account for compensation and other statewide benefit changes affecting the HG4 position. Most notably, beginning in 2025-27, it was collectively bargained that licensed HG positions, such as the one supporting XVCP, now receive assignment pay of 7.5% due to the licenses that they hold. Spending authority to pay for the increase in assignment pay was not included in the 2025-27 biennium budget, and therefore, there is currently a gap between Ecology's carryforward funding level in the Voluntary Cleanup Account ($376,000) and the costs of a licensed HG4 position ($409,000) per biennium.

Furthermore, current single-FTE staffing model also prevents program growth and limits operational resilience. With only one staff member assigned to XVCP, the program cannot expand services, meet increased demand, or maintain service continuity during absences, turnover, or spikes in workload. The lack of additional staff capacity also eliminates opportunities for cross-training, succession planning, and workload balancing—capabilities that are essential for maintaining timely, reliable service. As a result, the program cannot evolve in alignment with demonstrated demand or build the redundancy needed for stable program operations and potential growth.

Additionally, the program faces an increasing and recurring workload tied to periodic reviews of sites closed with environmental covenants. An environmental covenant (EC) is a mechanism used by Ecology site managers for implementing institutional controls. ECs are common for sites where contamination is contained left in place (or other engineered controls) and institutional controls, such as monitoring, are part of ongoing management of the site.

A recent five-year analysis of the program determined that nearly half of all XVCP sites are closing with an environmental covenant. Each covenant triggers a required periodic review every five years. As the number of covenant-based closures grows, so does the volume of mandated reviews. With current authority limitations, the program does not have sufficient capacity to manage this expanding workload and also maintain timely service for active and incoming projects. Increased authority is necessary to meet both current demand and to meet upcoming and future period reviews.

Proposed Solution:

To address these issues, Ecology is requesting funding additional staff and spending authority from the Voluntary Cleanup Account to establish a sustainable workforce model for XVCP. This request will support a second HG4 site manager position to help handle both current and future workload demands facing XVCP. The request will also shift portions of several existing FTEs that currently support XVCP with Environmental Information Management (EIM) data entry, administrative support, and management from the MTCA Operating Account to the Voluntary Cleanup Account, better aligning the work they do to support the program with the most appropriate fund source.

This expanded and better aligned capacity will improve turnaround times, absorb demand surges, support succession planning, and ensure the program can meet recurring, statutory periodic review obligations. It will also increase program resilience during staff absences or turnover, and provide more timely, predictable, and customer-focused cleanup services.

Impacts on Population Served:

XVCP provides property owners and developers with timely technical assistance and regulatory clarity as they conduct independent cleanups under MTCA. By supporting customers who need predictable timelines and rapid turnaround to advance cleanup and redevelopment projects, XVCP directly contributes to protecting public health and the environment while facilitating productive reuse of contaminated properties. Expanding the program's capacity will help ensure contaminated sites are addressed more quickly and effectively, benefiting communities through reduced environmental risks, improved land use, and enhanced economic opportunity. Reliable XVCP services support the broader public interest by enabling cleanups that safeguard natural resources, promote responsible development, and contribute to healthier and more resilient communities statewide.

Alternatives Explored:

Currently, XVCP's sole staff position is being partially subsidized with MTCA Operating funds due to limited expenditure authority, rather than funding availability, in the Voluntary Cleanup Account. Because XVCP is designed to be a self-funded program, increasing expenditure authority is necessary to allow the program to use its own revenue to fully support staff needs. If authority is not increased, the program will not have the

capacity to meet periodic review obligations, nor grow to meet any future demand. The only alternative without MTCA Operating subsidies or increase of authority would be to terminate XVCP.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:

If this request is not funded, the XVCP would continue operating with insufficient expenditure authority from the Voluntary Cleanup Account, causing MTCA Operating to continue to subsidize a program designed to be fully self-funded. Without corrections, this subsidy would expand over time and reduce funds available for other MTCA Operating cleanup activities and hinder XVCP growth and sustainability.

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request will expand Activity A057 (Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites) by increasing expenditure authority and FTEs to improve responsiveness, strengthen operational stability, and ensure the program can grow and deliver consistent, customer focused service. Below is a summary of the 2023-25 and 2025-27 base funding and FTEs for this activity. Administrative Overhead related to this activity is also in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals below.

A057 (Services to Site Owners that Volunteer to Clean Up their Contaminated Sites)		
	2023-25	**2025-27**
FTEs Total	26.9	26.9
23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating	$9,134,000	$9,382,000
23V-1 – Voluntary Cleanup Account	$308,000	$333,000
TOTAL	**$9,442,000**	**$9,715,000**

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Beginning in 2027-29, Ecology requires salaries, benefits, and associated staff costs to create and maintain a sustainable workforce model for XVCP that is capable of meeting current and long-term demands. The requested resources will ensure that Ecology can:

- Maintain timely review of active XVCP projects requiring technical assistance and written opinions.
- Complete periodic reviews for sites closed with environmental covenants (nearly half of all closed XVCP sites now require such reviews).
- Provide program resilience to maintain service during staff absences, turnover, and high-demand periods.

The funding requested will be used to support:

- Closing the funding gap between the costs of the current HG4 and Ecology's current 2027-29 carryforward funding level from the Voluntary Cleanup Account.
- 1.0 FTE for a new HG4 position to meet upcoming and expanding workload demand.

Additionally, the request will allow Ecology to shift portions of several existing FTEs from the MTCA Operating Account to the Voluntary Cleanup Account and align the work that they do in support of XVCP with the appropriate fund source.

- 0.08 FTE HG4 providing peer review and covenant-driven periodic reviews.
- 0.20 FTE Environmental Specialist 3 (ES3) providing essential technical and administrative support that enables the HG4 staff to focus on specialized review and project work. Work performed this position includes Environmental Information Management (EIM) data entry and related data-quality tasks that support accurate program tracking and compliance documentation.
- 0.08 FTE Environmental Specialist 4 (ES4) providing essential technical and administrative support that enables the HG4 staff to focus on specialized review and project work. This position provides administrative support, including customer coordination, tracking deliverables, and other program support functions.
- 0.05 FTE WMS Band 1 providing direct supervisory oversight, quality assurance, and operational management needed to support a multi-FTE technical program.

- 0.05 FTE WMS Band 2 providing senior-level program direction, policy alignment, and strategic oversight for XVCP and its integration within broader MTCA implementation.

Revenue Assumptions

The revenue assumptions use the cost recovery rates for XVCP effective in July 2026. The time charged to the Voluntary Cleanup Account for managing the Environmental Specialists is assumed to be billable and subsequently cost recovered at the technical and non-technical rates respectively. The new HG4 position is assumed to carry a similar workload to the current staff member and bill out 40% of their time while also generating a similar number of applications and close out fees.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
A	Salaries and Wages	124,460	124,460	124,460	124,460	124,460	124,460
B	Employee Benefits	41,761	41,761	41,761	41,761	41,761	41,761
E	Goods and Services	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531	5,531
G	Travel	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931	1,931
J	Capital Outlays	605	605	605	605	605	605
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements	46,573	46,573	46,573	46,573	46,573	46,573
	Total Objects	**220,861**	**220,861**	**220,861**	**220,861**	**220,861**	**220,861**

Staffing

Job Class	**Salary**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**	**FY 2032**	**FY 2033**
HYDROGEOLOGIST 4 plus Assignment Pay	116,343	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
FISCAL ANALYST 2		0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY		0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Total FTEs		**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**1.15**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L. The additional salary dollars are attributable to the assignment pay that was collectively bargained for in 2025-27 for licensed HG4s.
Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries. The additional benefit dollars are attributable to the assignment pay that was collectively bargained for in 2025-27 for licensed HG4s and other statewide benefit changes since the 2021-23 biennium that were not funded.
Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,552 per direct program FTE.
Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.
Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE.
Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. The additional overhead dollars are attributable to the assignment pay that was collectively bargained for in 2025-27 for licensed HG4s. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	**FY2029**
FTE (xx direct FTE)	1.0	1.0
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$188,000	$188,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$0	$0
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$188,000	$188,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals and objectives:

Goal 1: Support and engage our communities, customers, and employees
Objective 1.1 - Improve the access to, effectiveness, and timeliness of information, engagement, and services

This request will strengthen and expand XVCP's capacity to provide predictable, knowledgeable assistance and written opinions and will continue and build on our ability to provide timely, reliable, and high-quality services.

Goal 3: Prevent and reduce waste, toxic threats, and pollution
Objective 3.3 - Reduce, prevent, or manage pollution, toxic emissions, and contamination

This request will increase expenditure authority and staff for XVCP to enhance our ability to ensure independent cleanups meet MTCA requirements and protect human health and the environment.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – This request will protect and sustain Washington's environmental, cultural, and natural resources because expanding XVCP's staff and authority strengthens the state's ability to support timely cleanups, reduce toxic threats, and ensure contaminated properties are restored and reused in ways that safeguard public health and environmental quality.

Economy – This request will support a robust and responsible growth in the economy by supporting entities cleaning up sites to return them to productive use. No Further Action (NFA) determinations, issued through this process, are a key step in financing and developing a contaminated site. Without the NFA developers and other entities frequently cannot get financing to move a development project forward. The site subsequently sits vacant, which prevents it from supporting the local economy in a meaningful way while still posing a threat to human health and the environment.

Performance Outcomes:

This request aligns the intention that XVCP is a fully self-funded operating model, ensuring the program can support its own staff and service delivery using its dedicated revenue source. Expanded expenditure authority and staff levels will improve service reliability, enable us to conduct timely periodic reviews, and eliminate the need for MTCA Operating subsidies.

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

XVCP was developed with significant stakeholder involvement prior to its launch in 2020. This included community groups, developers, and members of the Model Toxics Control Act (MTCA) Cleanup Rule Stakeholder and Tribal Advisory Group (STAG). STAG is a group of 22 key stakeholders and representatives of Tribal interests who have practical experience with contaminated site cleanups in Washington state.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

Ecology protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated upland sites and contaminated sediments in the aquatic environment. XVCP provides services to owners of contaminated properties who conduct independent cleanups. Supporting people who want to independently clean up their sites, whether through the standard or XVCP processes, will positively impact Washington's environment, residents, and economy. Cleaning up and reusing contaminated properties significantly contributes to the economic prosperity and public health of our communities.

Target Communities and Populations:

Although XVCP is customer-driven and primarily used by property owners and developers, its outcomes benefit nearby communities by accelerating cleanup and reuse of contaminated properties. This is supported by Ecology's program guidance (https://ecology.wa.gov/spills-cleanup/contamination-cleanup/voluntary-cleanup-program/vcp-expedited), which explains that independent cleanups and VCP assistance help move sites toward No Further Action determinations needed for property transactions and redevelopment, thereby facilitating timely cleanup and reuse.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

See Community Outreach and Engagement response.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

This request will support the 2026-2030 Puget Sound Action Agenda implementation through the following Strategies and Actions:

Strategies & Action

- Smart Growth 05.03
- Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.04 and 03.05
- Stormwater Runoff 15.01 through 15.04

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

We do not anticipate any impacts to Tribal, regional, county or city governments or any political subdivision of the state resulting from this budget request.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Ecology collaborates with private developers, property owners, contractors, technical professionals, Tribes, and residents to clean up legacy contamination from past industrial practices and accidental spills. As during the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions, Ecology expects all these partners to support this request.

Property owners and commercial real estate developers have been particularly interested in finding a way to reduce response times under XVCP. The ability for property transactions and the associated cleanups to proceed often depends on Ecology's ability to provide timely responses. Developers are financially motivated by an expedited process. Both NAIOP (the Commercial Real Estate Development Association) and the Associated General Contractors of Washington actively supported Ecology's legislative and budget proposals during the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions.

Affected residents and environmental groups are interested in encouraging more people to voluntarily clean up contaminated sites. They want to ensure everyone who conducts voluntary cleanups can obtain advice and assistance under XVCP in a timely fashion. The Washington Environmental Council and Front and Centered were supportive of Ecology's legislative and budget proposals during the 2019 and 2020 legislative sessions.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program-HEAL Act Attachment.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$124	$124	**$248**	$124	$124	**$248**
Obj. B	$42	$42	**$84**	$42	$42	**$84**
Obj. E	$5	$5	**$10**	$5	$5	**$10**
Obj. G	$2	$2	**$4**	$2	$2	**$4**
Obj. J	$1	$1	**$2**	$1	$1	**$2**
Obj. T	$47	$47	**$94**	$47	$47	**$94**

Agency Contact Information

Nhi Irwin
(360) 791-5514
nhoa461@ecy.wa.gov

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (RCW 70A.02) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

Ecology protects public health and natural resources by cleaning up and managing contaminated upland sites and contaminated sediments in the aquatic environment. The Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP) provides services to owners of contaminated properties who conduct independent cleanups. Supporting people who want to independently clean up their sites, whether through the standard or expedited VCP processes, will positively impact Washington's environment, residents, and economy. Cleaning up and reusing contaminated properties significantly contributes to the economic prosperity and public health of our communities

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   No.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   No.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   No.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   We do not expect any significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights or interests.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   Not applicable.

Tab C-4 Protect and Manage our State's Waters 245

1. PL DD Well Construction and Licensing..... 247

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Agency Recommendation Summary

Ecology works with certain counties to protect consumers, well drillers, and the environment by regulating and inspecting well construction and decommissioning activities under Chapter 18.104 RCW. This request, and its accompanying agency request legislation, will revise the fee structure that supports these activities. Ecology will increase well drilling fees to fully cover all costs associated with Ecology's administrative oversight of well drilling, and this request will shift the funding for current Ecology staff from General Fund-State funding to the Reclamation Revolving Account. (General Fund-State, Reclamation Revolving Account)

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Staffing						
FTEs	0.0	0.0	**0.0**	1.2	1.2	**1.2**
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	($740)	($714)	**($1,454)**	($740)	($714)	**($1,454)**
Fund 027 - 1	$740	$714	**$1,454**	$931	$894	**$1,825**
Total Expenditures	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$191**	**$180**	**$371**
Revenue						
027 - 0287	$736	$736	**$1,472**	$736	$736	**$1,472**
Total Revenue	**$736**	**$736**	**$1,472**	**$736**	**$736**	**$1,472**

Decision Package Description

Background:
Ecology protects consumers and the environment by regulating well drillers and inspecting well construction and decommissioning under authority provided in Chapter 18.104 RCW. A portion of this work is done in partnership with 14 delegated counties that inspect water-well drilling activities. Drillers operating in a delegated county are required to follow that county's notification requirements and other regulations regarding well construction, inspections, and decommissioning work.

Ecology processes new applications and renews existing driller licenses every two years. We also manage related databases that support well drilling, provide Continuing Education Units to drillers for license renewal, coordinate the Well Construction Technical Advisory Group (TAG), and implement a delegation program where local health departments participate in well inspections in certain counties. Ecology Region Office staff manage enforcement, administer well driller examinations, provide customer service to public and stakeholder questions, and process well reports submitted by drillers.

Is this request related to any budget items funded in the past two biennia?
No

Problem/Opportunity:
There are two categories of wells - water wells and resource protection wells. A resource protection well is any well used to collect information on the underground environment. Resource protection wells may withdraw water for this purpose but are not used to supply water for beneficial use.

Prior to constructing, altering, repairing, or decommissioning either type, well operators must submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) to Ecology. At that time, Ecology collects a well construction fee from the operator. Water well construction fees were last increased in 2005. Fees for resource protection wells have not increased since the fee was first adopted in 1993. Additionally, some resource protection well borings are exempt from Notice of Intent (NOI) fees under current law.

Overall, fee revenue is disproportionately weighted to water wells. Resource protection well fees are a much smaller revenue source. The total current revenue from fees for both types of well is less than Ecology's costs for regulatory and administrative/oversight activities. As a result, Ecology relies heavily on General Fund-State (GF-S) funding to carry out the administrative oversight of well drilling.

In 2016, Ecology collaborated with the Governor's Office of Regulatory Innovation and Assistance to conduct a standard cost model pilot study

to measure the time and money businesses spent complying with certain state regulations (The Administrative Burden of Ecology's Well Notice of Intent and Report, https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/wr/wells/2016-ECY-Standard-Cost-Model-Report-final.pdf). This study identified improvements to clarify regulations and reduce the regulatory burden on the well drilling industry. Ecology has further refined these concepts through collaboration with the Well Construction TAG to propose updates that will reduce regulatory project delays, eliminate persistent problems associated with licensing, and begin the process of changing administrative burdens that will require an update to Chapter 173-160 WAC in a future biennium.

Proposed Solution:
This request will support submitted agency request legislation to modify Chapter 18.104 RCW to include technical changes, fee increases, and a fee structure shift (refer to Attachment A). The proposed legislation includes an increase in NOI fees across all types of wells and will implement new fees for constructing certain types of wells that are currently exempt from any fee.

The agency request legislation will result in additional fee revenue, which will reduce Ecology's dependence on the General Fund-State. Expanding the number and types of wells subject to fees will create an evenly distributed revenue stream. If the agency request legislation passes, this request is needed to shift current administrative oversight of well drilling staff costs from General Fund-State funding to the Reclamation Revolving Account on a permanent basis. This shift will be supported entirely by the fee increase and restructuring, with all well drilling fee revenue being deposited into the Reclamation Revolving Account.

This request would also authorize Ecology to adjust fees in future biennia to account for the state's fiscal growth factor (calculated under RCW 43.135.025) to recover costs of the well drilling program. Fee increases greater than the fiscal growth factor would need to be supported by a published workload analysis.

Impacts on Population Served:
As population grows and the climate changes, competition for scarce water resources increases, and effectively managing the well drilling industry becomes more critical. Ecology's agency request legislation accompanying this budget request reflects shifting the cost of administrative oversight from a mix of fees and General Fund-State to being supported fully by fees.

By modernizing oversight of the industry and increasing funding, Ecology can more effectively manage critical groundwater resources and meet our statutory obligations in the well drilling program to protect the public health, welfare, and safety of Washington communities.
These changes have been communicated with the well-drilling industry and other stakeholders.

Alternatives Explored:
The only alternative would be to do nothing and remain reliant on General Fund-State funding for a portion of the costs of administrative oversight of well drilling. However, the state General Fund is experiencing a significant fund balance issue and is currently going through statewide reduction exercises. If Ecology's agency request legislation does not pass, Ecology would continue to rely on the General Fund to support a portion of the costs of administrative oversight of well drilling.

Consequences of Not Funding This Request:
Not funding this request could result in staff reductions due to continued reliance on the state General Fund because of the projected state General Fund shortfall. If staff reductions were made, it would impact Ecology's ability to effectively regulate the well drilling industry.

JUSTIFICATION FOR NEW OR INCREASED FEE REQUEST:

1. Fee Name: Well Drilling Fees and Penalties

Fees: Decommissioning, Dewatering, Ground Source Heat Pump / Grounding, Resource Protection, Borings, and Water Wells

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate: Multiple

Fees:

- Decommissioning – $50
- Dewatering – $40 per 200 lineal feet
- Ground Source Heat Pump / Grounding – $40 up to 4 and $10 for each additional
- Ground Source Heat Pump / Grounding Decommissioning – $20

- Resource Protection (general) – $40
- Resource Protection (environmental investigation) – $40 up to 4 and $10 for each additional
- Resource Protection Decommissioning – $20
- Water (less than 12") – $200
- Water (greater than 12") – $300

3. Proposed Rate:

FY 2028: Multiple – See Attachment B
FY 2029: No Change from FY 2028

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

FY 2028: See Attachment B
FY 2029: No Change from FY 2028

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

FY 2028: $735,798
FY 2029: $735,798

7. Justification: Currently, fees charged for well drilling administrative oversight do not cover the cost of providing the services. Fee increases will eliminate the need to subsidize the activity with state general funds. Additionally, fees charged for water-well construction cover a disproportionate amount of well drilling oversight activities. Increasing fees on other types of regulated activities, such as resource protection wells, will create a more equitable funding structure. Increasing fee revenue overall will also reduce dependence on the state general fund and create more funding stability.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No

9. Changes in Methodology: Consistent with the 2016 Standard Cost Model Pilot Study, the proposal would implement a single fee for all fee-subject uncased environmental investigation wells. It would also apply this fee to categories of wells that are not currently subject to fees, such as environmental investigation wells and soil borings.

10. RecSum Code: DD

11. Alternatives: None

12. Statutory Change Required?
Yes

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

This request does not expand Activity A053 – Regulate Well Construction because it doesn't add any new FTEs or work to the overall activity. This request will align current FTEs for administrative oversight of well drilling within the Reclamation Revolving dedicated account (Fund 027) instead of a mix of between GF-S and Fund 027. There is no change in the level of service that will be provided within the activity.

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

Existing Staff Fund Shift from General Fund-State (GF-S) to Reclamation Revolving Account (027)

This request will not require new FTEs to implement. The fee increases proposed in Ecology's agency request legislation will allow Ecology to

shift current staff costs for administrative oversight of well drilling from being funded by GF-S to the Reclamation Revolving Account (Fund 027) on a permanent basis. The FTE shift from GF-S to Fund 027 will be supported entirely by the fee increases with all well drilling fee revenue being deposited into Fund 027. The duties and work of the shifted FTEs will not change because of the fee increases. All identified FTEs will continue to implement administrative oversight of well drilling with no change from current practice.

FTEs that will be shifted are:

- Hydrogeologist 3 (HG3), 2.15 FTEs in even-numbered years and 2.0 FTEs in odd-numbered years.
- Provide technical oversight and implementation of well drilling regulations.
- 0.5 FTE Washington Management Service 2 (WMS2) – Provides management oversight of well drilling regulations.
- 0.5 FTE Administrative Assistant 3 (AA3) – Provides administrative support for well drilling regulations.

Rulemaking Costs – Implementation In 2029-31 Biennium
Ecology will need to update rules if our agency request legislation passes. The rule update will be implemented during the 2029-31 biennium.

Rulemaking assumptions are as follows:

Ecology estimates rulemaking will be moderately complex and generate substantial public interest and input. It will likely require 18 months, from July 1, 2029, through December 31, 2030.

This type of rulemaking will include one preproposal meeting to gather input from stakeholders and develop the Environmental Justice Assessment and one public hearing to accept comments on the rule proposal.

- Rulemaking Lead: Ecology estimates 0.5 FTE Environmental Planner 5 will spend 12 months in fiscal year 2030 and six months in fiscal year 2031 leading and coordinating the rulemaking effort.
- Technical Lead: Ecology estimates 0.25 FTE Hydrogeologist 3 and 0.25 FTE Environmental Planner 4 in fiscal years 2030 and 2031 will provide program support, public outreach, technical subject matter expertise, and administrative support to the rulemaking process. The combination of these FTEs will also support the public engagement and outreach process during the rulemaking.

The following FTEs will complete an economic and regulatory analysis of the rule: 0.2 FTE Economic Analyst 3 in fiscal year 2031; and 0.05 FTE Regulatory Analyst 2 in fiscal year 2031. Ecology will hold one public meeting and one public hearing in fiscal year 2030 and no public meetings or hearings in fiscal year 2031 for this rulemaking.

Goods and services estimates include facility rental costs estimated at $1,000 per hearing or meeting and $4,000 for facilitation services in fiscal year 2030.

All rulemaking costs are anticipated to be funded from the Reclamation Revolving Account (Fund 027) during the 2029-31 biennium.

Workforce Assumptions:

Expenditures by Object		FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
A	Salaries and Wages			105,118	102,142		
B	Employee Benefits			32,902	31,970		
E	Goods and Services			11,532	5,532		
G	Travel			1,932	1,932		
J	Capital Outlays			605	604		
T	Intra-Agency Reimbursements			39,335	38,222		
	Total Objects	**0**	**0**	**191,424**	**180,402**	**0**	**0**

Staffing

Job Class	Salary	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2030	FY 2031	FY 2032	FY 2033
HYDROGEOLOGIST 3	98,067			0.25	0.25		
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 5	110,956			0.50	0.25		
ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER 4	100,490			0.25	0.25		
REGULATORY ANALYST 2	93,293				0.05		
ECONOMIC ANALYST 3	100,490				0.20		
FISCAL ANALYST 2				0.10	0.10		
IT APP DEVELOPMENT-JOURNEY				0.05	0.05		
Total FTEs		**0.00**	**0.00**	**1.15**	**1.15**	**0.00**	**0.00**

Explanation of Costs by Object

Salary estimates are current biennium actual rates at Step L.

Benefits are the agency average of 31.3% of salaries.

Goods and Services are the agency average of $5,531 per direct program FTE. Goods and services also includes $6,000 for facility rental and facilitation services in FY 2030.

Travel is the agency average of $1,931 per direct program FTE.

Equipment is the agency average of $605 per direct program FTE. Agency Administrative Overhead is calculated at the federally approved agency indirect rate of 28.5% of direct program salaries and benefits and is shown as object T. Agency Administrative Overhead FTEs are included at 0.15 FTE per direct program FTE and are identified as Fiscal Analyst 2 and IT App Development-Journey.

Historical Funding:

	FY2028	FY2029
FTE (xx direct FTE)	9.8	9.8
Total Funds (rounded to thousands)	$1,456,000	$1,472,000
Near General Fund (rounded to thousands)	$554,000	$527,000
Other Funds (rounded to thousands)	$902,000	$945,000

Administrative Overhead related to this program or service is in the agency's Administration Activity A002 but is not shown in the totals above.

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

Strategic Framework – Ecology's Goals
This request is essential to achieving the following Ecology goals:

Goal 1: Support and Engage our Communities, Customers and Employees
Objective 1.3 Improve our financial and operational resilience and adaptability

This request and agency request legislation will provide efficiencies and regulatory relief at the local level to support improved well drilling administration and oversight for local economic, recreational, and environmental benefit.

Goal 4: Protect and Manage our State's Water
Objective 4.1 Increase and preserve access to water for fish, wildlife, and municipal, domestic, and agricultural needs

This request and agency request legislation will help meet economic and community needs for reliable water supplies statewide.

Statewide Goals – Governor's Priorities for the 2027-29 Budget
This request is essential to achieving the following Governor's priorities:

Climate and Environment – This request will ensure that Ecology's administrative oversight of well drilling has sufficient and stable resources to uphold the state's environmental protection standards for groundwater resources and use.

Governance – This request will provide efficiencies and regulatory relief to citizens and Tribes at the local level to support improved well drilling administration and oversight for local economic, recreational, and environmental benefit.

Performance Outcomes:

This request will not result in an increase in overall funding to provide administrative oversight for well-drilling activities. Instead, it will maintain current funding levels and shift the funding from a mix of General Fund-State and fee supported activity to solely being fee supported.

Ecology's agency request legislation, which accompanies this request, will address technological changes to well construction and drilling practices and provide significant business efficiencies for the well drilling industry. It will also reduce the regulatory burden on the industry, as determined in the 2016 standard cost model pilot study conducted in collaboration with the Governor's Office of Regulatory Innovation and Assistance (The Administrative Burden of Ecology's Well Notice of Intent and Report, https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/ezshare/wr/wells/2016-ECY-Standard-Cost-Model-Report-final.pdf).

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

Ecology sent an announcement (on July 17, 2026) to organizations representing communities who may have an interest in this agency request legislation topic area with a plain-talked description of the proposal and links to informal public comment forms. Ecology received no feedback about the proposed request legislation. Ecology also convened a Tribal Forum for all proposed 2027 agency request legislation. This proposal was presented in the forum, and Ecology staff answered questions and provided space to hear insights and feedback from Tribes in attendance. Ecology also extended an invitation to Tribes for Government-to-Government consultation. This meeting occurred on July 22, 2026. Ecology received no feedback about the proposed request legislation.

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

There are no anticipated direct or disproportionate impacts of this action on Tribes, overburdened communities, or vulnerable populations. Proposed fee increases are based on well type and are the same for all well-owners. However, fee increases may be felt more strongly by low-income homeowners and small businesses in rural areas where lack of access to public water systems makes them reliant on water wells to meet their needs.

Target Communities and Populations:

There are no anticipated direct benefits or burdens to specific communities or populations. This budget request and accompanying agency request legislation are intended to reduce administrative burdens on the well construction industry based on outdated technical definitions and standards and are anticipated to increase the industry's capacity for meeting safety requirements for public health and resource protection, benefiting water users statewide. The proposed well construction fee increases will allow administrative oversight of well drilling activities to achieve full cost recovery, supporting customer service and technical assistance provided to the public.

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

Ecology's actions for this budget request do not directly impact specific communities, and the agency did not conduct community-specific outreach or engagement with community representatives. However, Ecology provided opportunities for interested entities to share input through established forums:

- Meeting with the Well Construction Technical Advisory Group in June and August 2026 to discuss efficiency changes, fee updates, and concerns about future fee-setting authority;
- Engaging the Water Resources Advisory Committee during its statewide July 2026 meeting, where participants offered feedback and expressed no concerns about the proposed fee increases; and
- Initiating discussions with the Washington State Groundwater Association in July 2026, with follow-up meetings planned and no anticipated strong opposition based on initial conversations.

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

See attached.

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

This request will have minimal direct impact on other local, state, federal, and/or Tribal programs that support economic, community, and agricultural development and help protect and restore fish species.

There may be a small impact on these agencies for increased costs from the proposed fee increases when they obtain well drilling services from private vendors or need to drill their own wells. For example, the Washington State Department of Transportation and/or other local or Tribal government entities will have increased costs to implement projects that require environmental investigation or resource protection. Cleanup programs remediating soils will have increased costs from environmental investigation wells. These increased costs are expected to be negligible to the scope of total costs for large cleanup or transportation construction projects.

Stakeholder Impacts:

Through collaboration with the TAG, Ecology has identified improvements to clarify existing statute and reduce the regulatory burden on the well drilling industry. TAG supports the efficiency and technical changes of the agency request legislation that will reduce regulatory burdens on the well drilling community.

TAG did not express opposition to the proposed fee increases and accepted the scope of the increases, with some individuals supportive and some not. However, some members expressed concerns around proposed rulemaking authority for Ecology to update fees in the future without statutory amendment.

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

This budget request accompanies agency request legislation proposed for the 2027 legislative session. Ecology is proposing improvements to the Washington Well Construction Act (Chapter 18.104 RCW) to clarify well drilling regulations, modernize definitions, increases fees, and obtain authority to modify future fee updates for cost recovery by rule.

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

Reference Documents

Well Construction and Licensing-Attachment A.pdf
Well Construction and Licensing-Attachment B.xlsx
Well Construction and Licensing-HEAL Act.pdf

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Objects of Expenditure

Objects of Expenditure *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Obj. A	$0	$0	**$0**	$105	$102	**$207**
Obj. B	$0	$0	**$0**	$33	$32	**$65**
Obj. E	$0	$0	**$0**	$11	$5	**$16**
Obj. G	$0	$0	**$0**	$2	$2	**$4**
Obj. J	$0	$0	**$0**	$1	$1	**$2**
Obj. T	$0	$0	**$0**	$39	$38	**$77**

Agency Contact Information

Ria Berns
(425) 495-3917
rber461@ecy.wa.gov

BILL REQUEST - CODE REVISER'S OFFICE

BILL REQ. #: Z-0087.2/27 2nd draft

ATTY/TYPIST: RR:eab

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: Concerning well construction and licensing.

AN ACT Relating to well construction and licensing; and amending RCW 18.104.020, 18.104.040, 18.104.048, 18.104.050, 18.104.055, 18.104.070, 18.104.095, 18.104.100, 18.104.155, and 18.104.180.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

Sec. 1. RCW 18.104.020 and 2021 c 65 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:

The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Abandoned well" means a well that is unmaintained or is in such disrepair that it is unusable or is a risk to public health and welfare.

(2) "Boring" means an uncased hole in the ground which is drilled, bored, cored, driven, dug, or jetted, or excavated by other means. Borings are temporary excavations that are decommissioned immediately after measurements, samples, or injections are performed.

(3) "Constructing a well" or "construct a well" means:

(a) Boring, digging, drilling, or excavating a well;

(b) Installing casing, sheeting, lining, or well screens, in a well;

(c) Drilling a geotechnical soil boring; or

(d) Installing an environmental investigation ((~~well~~)) boring.

"Constructing a well" or "construct a well" includes the alteration of an existing well.

((~~(3)~~)) (4) "Decommission" means to fill or plug a well so that it will not produce water, serve as a channel for movement of water or pollution, or allow the entry of pollutants into the well or aquifers.

((~~(4)~~)) (5) "Department" means the department of ecology.

((~~(5)~~)) (6) "Dewatering well" means a cased or lined excavation or boring that is intended to withdraw or divert groundwater for the purpose of facilitating construction, stabilizing a landslide, or protecting an aquifer.

((~~(6)~~)) (7) "Director" means the director of the department of ecology.

((~~(7)~~)) (8) "Environmental investigation ((~~well~~)) boring" means a cased hole intended or used to extract a sample or samples of groundwater, vapor, or soil from an underground formation ((~~and which is decommissioned immediately after the sample or samples are obtained~~)) for the purpose of detecting or measuring subsurface contamination. An environmental investigation ((~~well~~)) boring is typically ((~~installed using direct push technology or auger boring and uses the probe, stem, auger, or rod as casing~~)) decommissioned immediately after samples are obtained. ((~~An environmental investigation well is not a geotechnical soil boring.~~

~~(8)~~)) (9) "Geotechnical soil boring" or "boring" means a well drilled for the purpose of obtaining soil samples or information to ascertain structural properties of the subsurface.

((~~(9)~~)) (10) "Ground source heat pump boring" means a ((~~vertical boring~~)) cased or uncased boring more than 30 feet in depth below ground surface constructed for the purpose of installing a closed loop heat exchange system for a ground source heat pump.

((~~(10)~~)) (11) "Grounding well" means a grounding electrode installed in the earth by the use of drilling equipment to prevent buildup of voltages that may result in undue hazards to persons or equipment. Examples are anode and cathode protection wells.

((~~(11)~~)) (12) "Groundwater" means and includes groundwaters as defined in RCW 90.44.035.

((~~(12)~~)) (13) "Instrumentation well" means a well in which pneumatic or electric geotechnical or hydrological instrumentation is permanently or periodically installed to measure or monitor subsurface strength and movement. Instrumentation well includes

borehole extensometers, slope indicators, pneumatic or electric pore pressure transducers, and load cells.

((~~(13)~~)) (14) "Monitoring well" means a well designed to obtain a representative groundwater sample or designed to measure the water level elevation in either clean or contaminated water or soil.

((~~(14)~~)) (15) "Observation well" means a well designed to measure the depth to the water level elevation in either clean or contaminated water or soil.

((~~(15)~~)) (16) "Operator" means a person who (a) is employed by a well contractor; (b) is licensed under this chapter; or (c) who controls, supervises, or oversees the construction of a well or who operates well construction equipment.

((~~(16)~~)) (17) "Owner" or "well owner" means the person, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, association, other entity, or any combination of these, who owns the property on which the well is or will be constructed or has the right to the well by means of an easement, covenant, or other enforceable legal instrument for the purpose of benefiting from the well.

((~~(17)~~)) (18) "Pitless adapter" or "pitless unit" means a frost-free and sanitary connection of the discharge pipe to the drop pipe in a water well. A pitless adapter is designed to allow a connection through the side of the well casing to the water line underground while maintaining access to the well from the surface. Pitless units attach directly to the top of the casing and require the casing to be cut down to be installed.

(19) "Pollution" and "contamination" have the meanings provided in RCW 90.48.020.

((~~(18)~~)) (20) "Remediation well" means a cased well intended or used to withdraw ((~~groundwater~~)) or inject water, ((~~air (for air sparging)~~)) gas, or ((~~other solutions into the subsurface~~)) chemicals for the purpose of remediating, cleaning up, or controlling potential or actual groundwater contamination.

((~~(19)~~)) (21) "Resource protection well" means a ((~~cased~~)) well or boring intended or used to collect subsurface information or to determine the existence or migration of pollutants within an underground formation. Resource protection wells include monitoring wells, observation wells, piezometers, spill response wells, remediation wells, ((~~environmental investigation wells,~~)) vapor extraction wells, ((~~ground source heat pump boring, grounding wells,~~)) and instrumentation wells.

((~~(20)~~)) (22) "Resource protection well contractor" means any person, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, association, or other entity, licensed and bonded under chapter 18.27 RCW, engaged in the business of constructing resource protection wells or geotechnical soil borings.

((~~(21)~~)) (23) "Water well" means any ((~~excavation~~)) cased or excavated well that is constructed when the intended use of the well is for the location, diversion, artificial recharge, observation, monitoring, dewatering, or withdrawal of groundwater. ((~~"Water wells" include ground source heat pump borings and grounding wells.~~

~~(22)~~)) (24) "Water well contractor" means any person, firm, partnership, copartnership, corporation, association, or other entity, licensed and bonded under chapter 18.27 RCW, engaged in the business of constructing water wells.

((~~(23)~~)) (25)(a) "Well" means water wells, resource protection wells, dewatering wells, ground source heat pump borings, environmental investigation borings, and geotechnical soil borings.

(b) ((~~Well~~)) For the purposes of this chapter, well does not mean an excavation made for the purpose of:

(i) Obtaining or prospecting for oil, natural gas, geothermal resources, minerals, or products of mining, or quarrying, or for inserting media to repressure oil or natural gas bearing formations, or for storing petroleum, natural gas, or other products;

(ii) Siting and constructing an on-site sewage disposal system as defined in RCW 70A.105.020 or a large on-site sewage system as defined in RCW 70A.115.010; or

(iii) Inserting any device or instrument less than ((~~ten~~)) 10 feet in depth into the soil for the sole purpose of performing soil, vapor, or water testing or analysis or establishing soil moisture content as long as there is no withdrawal of water in any quantity other than as necessary to perform the intended testing or analysis.

((~~(24)~~)) (26) "Well contractor" means a resource protection well contractor and a water well contractor licensed and bonded under chapter 18.27 RCW.

Sec. 2. RCW 18.104.040 and 1993 c 387 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

The department shall have the power:

(1) To issue, deny, suspend or revoke licenses pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

(2) At all reasonable times, to enter upon lands for the purpose of inspecting, taking measurements from, or tagging any well, constructed or being constructed;

(3) To call upon or receive professional or technical advice from the department of health, the technical advisory group created in RCW 18.104.190, or any other public agency or person;

(4) To adopt rules, in consultation with the department of health and the technical advisory group created in RCW 18.104.190, governing licensing and well construction as may be appropriate to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The rules adopted by the department may include, but are not limited to:

(a) Standards for the construction and maintenance of wells and their casings;

(b) Methods of capping, sealing, and decommissioning wells to prevent contamination of groundwater resources and to protect public health and safety;

(c) Methods of artificial recharge of groundwater bodies and of construction of wells which insure separation of individual water bearing formations;

(d) The manner of conducting and the content of examinations required to be taken by applicants for license hereunder;

(e) Requirements for the filing of notices of intent, well reports, and the payment of fees;

(f) Reporting requirements of well contractors;

(g) Limitations on well construction in areas identified by the department as requiring intensive control of withdrawals in the interests of sound management of the groundwater resource;

(5) To require the operator in the construction of a well and the property owner in the maintenance of a well to guard against waste and contamination of the groundwater resources;

(6) To require ((~~the operator to place a well identification tag on a new well and on an existing well on which work is performed after the effective date of rules requiring well identification tags and to place or require the owner to place a well identification tag on an existing well~~)) operators and well owners to comply with identification tagging requirements as defined under chapter 173-160 WAC;

(7) To require the well owner to repair or decommission any well:

(a) That is abandoned, unusable, or not intended for future use; or

(b) That is an environmental, safety, or public health hazard.

Sec. 3. RCW 18.104.048 and 1993 c 387 s 6 are each amended to read as follows:

A property owner or the owner's agent shall notify the department of his or her intent to begin well construction, reconstruction, or decommissioning procedures at least ((~~seventy-two~~)) 48 hours in advance of commencing work. The notice shall be submitted on forms provided by the department and shall be accompanied by the fees required by RCW 18.104.055. The notice shall contain the name of the owner of the well, location of the well, proposed use, approximate start date, well contractor's or operator's name and license number, company's name, and other pertinent information as prescribed ((~~by rule of the department~~)) under chapter 173-160 WAC. Rules of the department shall also provide for prior telephonic notification by well contractors or operators in exceptional situations. The department shall issue a receipt indicating that the notice required by this section has been filed and the fees required by RCW 18.104.055 have been paid not later than three business days after the department has received the notice and fees.

Sec. 4. RCW 18.104.050 and 2005 c 84 s 3 are each amended to read as follows:

((~~(1)~~)) Any person authorized by this chapter to construct or decommission a well shall ((~~furnish a well report to the director~~)) comply with the well report requirements prescribed under chapter 173-160 WAC. Well reports must be provided to the department within ((~~thirty~~)) 30 days after the completion of the construction or decommissioning of a well. The director, by rule, shall prescribe the form of the report and the information to be contained therein.

((~~(2) In the case of a dewatering well project:~~

~~(a) A single well construction report may be submitted for all similar dewatering wells constructed with no significant change in geologic formation; and~~

~~(b) A single well decommissioning report may be submitted for all similar dewatering wells decommissioned that have no significant change in geologic formation.~~))

Sec. 5. RCW 18.104.055 and 2005 c 84 s 4 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) A fee is hereby imposed on each well constructed in this state on or after July 1, 2005.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4) of this section, starting July 1, 2027, the fee schedule is as follows:

(a) The fee for one water well, other than a dewatering well, with a minimum top casing diameter of less than ((~~twelve~~)) 12 inches is ((~~two hundred dollars~~)) $250. This fee does not apply to a ground source heat pump boring or a grounding well.

(b) The fee for one water well, other than a dewatering well, with a minimum top casing diameter of ((~~twelve~~)) 12 inches or greater is ((~~three hundred dollars~~)) $400.

(c) The fee for a resource protection well((~~, except for an environmental investigation well, a ground source heat pump boring, or a grounding well,~~)) is ((~~forty dollars~~)) $100 for each well. Uncased instrumentation wells are also subject to this fee.

(d) The fee for an environmental investigation ((~~well in which groundwater is sampled or measured is forty dollars for construction of up to four environmental investigation wells per project, ten dollars for each additional environmental investigation well constructed on a project with more than four wells~~)) boring is $80 for construction of up to five borings per project and $20 for each additional boring on a project with more than five borings. There is no fee for ((~~soil or~~)) vapor sampling purposes.

(e) The fee for a ground source heat pump boring or a grounding well is ((~~forty dollars~~)) $100 for construction of up to ((~~four~~)) five ground source heat pump borings or grounding wells per project and ((~~ten dollars~~)) $20 for each additional ground source heat pump boring or grounding well constructed on a project with more than four wells.

(f) The combined fee for construction and decommissioning of a dewatering well system ((~~shall be forty dollars~~)) is $100 for each ((~~two hundred~~)) 200 horizontal lineal feet, or portion thereof, of the dewatering well system.

(g) The fee to decommission a water well is ((~~fifty dollars~~)) $100.

(h) The fee to decommission a resource protection well((~~, except for an environmental investigation well,~~)) is ((~~twenty dollars~~)) $50. There is no fee to decommission an environmental investigation ((~~well or a geotechnical soil~~)) boring.

(i) The fee to decommission a ground source heat pump boring or a grounding well is ((~~twenty dollars~~)) $40.

(3) The fees imposed by this section shall be paid at the time the notice of well construction is submitted to the department as provided by RCW 18.104.048. The department by rule may adopt procedures to permit the fees required for resource protection wells to be paid after the number of wells actually constructed has been determined. The department shall refund the amount of any fee collected for wells, borings, probes, or excavations as long as construction has not started and the department has received a refund request within ((~~one hundred eighty~~)) 180 days from the time the department received the fee. The refund request shall be made on a form provided by the department.

(4) The department is authorized to adjust the fee schedule established in subsection (2) of this section, not more often than annually, to cover and not exceed the direct and indirect costs of the department's administration of the well construction and licensing program under this chapter.

(a) The fees established in subsection (2) of this section shall remain in effect except as adjusted by the department under (b) of this subsection. Nothing in this subsection authorizes the department to impose a new fee or eliminate a fee category established in subsection (2) of this section.

(b) The department, with input from the technical advisory group appointed under RCW 18.104.190, is authorized to determine, assess, and collect fees at a level to recover program costs identified as described in (c) of this subsection. If the adjustment to any individual fee category established in subsection (2) of this section is greater than the state's fiscal growth factor calculated under RCW 43.135.025, the department shall publish a summary of its workload analysis for the updated fee schedule.

(c) Program activities to be included in the department's workload analysis of the well construction and licensing program include:

(i) Processing notices of intent;

(ii) Conducting well inspections;

(iii) Monitoring, compliance, and enforcement of well construction and decommissioning projects;

(iv) Meeting contractual obligations, evaluating performance, and training local health jurisdictions related to delegated authority under RCW 18.104.043;

(v) Overseeing training and licensing of well operators;

(vi) Managing the well report, notice of intent, and licensing databases and related web-based submittal and search tools;

(vii) Coordination of well construction operations with water rights regulation;

(viii) Production of educational and training materials for department staff, landowners, and the public; and

(ix) Customer service, public assistance, and other indirect costs.

Sec. 6. RCW 18.104.070 and 1993 c 387 s 12 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) A person shall be qualified to ((~~receive~~)) obtain a water well operator's license if the person:

((~~(1)~~)) (a) Has submitted a completed application to the department on forms provided by the department and has paid to the department the application fee ((~~determined by rule adopted pursuant to this chapter~~)) specified under chapter 173-162 WAC; and

((~~(2)~~)) (b) Has the field experience and educational training ((~~required by rule~~)) specified under chapter 173-162 WAC adopted by the department pursuant to this chapter; and

((~~(3)~~)) (c) Has passed a written examination as provided for in RCW 18.104.080; and

((~~(4)~~)) (d) Has passed an on-site examination by the department if the person's qualifying field experience under ((~~subsection (2)~~)) (b) of this ((~~section~~)) subsection is from another state. The department may waive the on-site examination.

(2) A valid water well operator's license authorizes construction and decommissioning of the following types of wells and borings: Water wells, dewatering wells, grounding wells, and ground source heat pump borings.

Sec. 7. RCW 18.104.095 and 1993 c 387 s 14 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) A person shall be qualified to ((~~receive~~)) obtain a resource protection well operator's license if the person:

((~~(1)~~)) (a) Has submitted a completed application to the department on forms provided by the department and has paid to the department the application fee ((~~required by rules adopted pursuant to this chapter~~)) specified under chapter 173-162 WAC;

((~~(2)~~)) (b) Has acquired field experience and educational training ((~~required by~~)) specified in rules adopted pursuant to this chapter;

((~~(3)~~)) (c) Has passed a written examination as provided for in RCW 18.104.080. This requirement shall not apply to a person who passed the written examination to obtain a resource protection well construction operator's training license; and

((~~(4)~~)) (d) Has passed an on-site examination by the department if the person's qualifying field experience is from another state. The department may waive the on-site examination.

(2) A person with a license issued pursuant to this chapter before July 1, 1993, may obtain a resource protection well construction operator's license by paying the application fee ((~~determined by rule adopted by the department pursuant to this chapter~~)) specified under chapter 173-162 WAC and submitting evidence required by the department to demonstrate that the person has the required experience to construct resource protection wells.

(3) A valid resource protection well operator's license authorizes construction and decommissioning of the following types of wells and borings: Monitoring wells, observation wells, piezometers, spill response wells, remediation wells, environmental investigation borings, vapor extraction wells, ground source heat pump borings, grounding wells, instrumentation wells, and geotechnical soil borings.

Sec. 8. RCW 18.104.100 and 2005 c 84 s 5 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Licenses issued pursuant to this chapter shall be renewed every two years. A license shall be renewed upon payment of a renewal fee and completion of continuing education requirements and receipt of a completed license renewal application. If a licensee fails to submit an application for renewal, the renewal fee, and proof of completion of the required continuing education, the license shall be suspended at the end of its effective term. The licensee is not allowed to perform work authorized by their license during the time that it is suspended. The licensee is allowed thirty days to submit

an application for renewal, the renewal fee, and proof of completion of the required continuing education for the renewal period. Continuing education obtained during the thirty-day suspension period may be applied only to the next renewal period. If a licensee fails to submit an application for renewal, the renewal fee, and proof of completion of the required continuing education by the end of the thirty-day suspension period, the license expires. The department shall adopt rules, in consultation with the technical advisory group created under RCW 18.104.190, that allow for an extension of the thirty-day suspension period for certain situations that are beyond the control of the licensee. The rules must also allow for a retirement or inactive license.

(2) A person may hold both resource protection and water well licenses. If an operator possesses both licenses, then both licenses must have a single renewal date. The department shall:

(a) Synchronize the renewal date of an operator's second license with their original license renewal date; and

(b) Synchronize the renewal dates of operators holding both water well and resource protection licenses on the effective date of this section.

(3) A person whose license has expired must apply for a new license as provided in this chapter. The department may waive the requirement for a written examination and on-site testing for a person whose license has expired.

((~~(3)~~)) (4) The department may refuse to renew a license if the licensee has not complied with an order issued by the department or has not paid a penalty imposed in accordance with this chapter, unless the order or penalty is under appeal.

((~~(4)~~)) (5) The department may issue a conditional license to enable a former licensee to comply with an order to correct problems with a well.

Sec. 9. RCW 18.104.155 and 1995 c 403 s 628 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) Except as provided in RCW 43.05.060 through 43.05.080 and 43.03.150, the department of ecology may assess a civil penalty for a violation of this chapter or rules or orders of the department adopted or issued pursuant to it.

(2) There shall be three categories of violations: Minor, serious, and major.

(a) A minor violation is a violation that does not seriously threaten public health, safety, and the environment. Minor violations include, but are not limited to:

(i) Failure to submit completed ((~~start cards~~)) notice of intent and well reports within the required time;

(ii) Failure to submit variance requests before construction;

(iii) Failure to submit well construction fees;

(iv) Failure to place a well identification tag on a new well; and

(v) Minor or reparable construction problems.

(b) A serious violation is a violation that poses a critical or serious threat to public health, safety, and the environment. Serious violations include, but are not limited to:

(i) Improper well construction;

(ii) Intentional and improper location or siting of a well;

(iii) Construction of a well without a required water right permit;

(iv) Violation of decommissioning requirements;

(v) Repeated minor violations; or

(vi) Construction of a well by a person whose license has expired or has been suspended for not more than ninety days.

(c) A major violation is the construction of a well by a person:

(i) Without a license; or

(ii) After the person's license has been suspended for more than ninety days or revoked.

(3)(a) The penalty for a minor violation shall be not less than one hundred dollars and not more than five hundred dollars. Before the imposition of a penalty for a minor violation, the department may issue an order of noncompliance to provide an opportunity for mitigation or compliance.

(b) The penalty for a serious violation shall be not less than five hundred dollars and not more than five thousand dollars.

(c) The penalty for a major violation shall be not less than five thousand dollars and not more than ten thousand dollars.

(4) In determining the appropriate penalty under subsection (3) of this section the department shall consider whether the person:

(a) Has demonstrated a general disregard for public health and safety through the number and magnitude of the violations;

(b) Has demonstrated a disregard for the well construction laws or rules in repeated or continuous violations; or

(c) Knew or reasonably should have known of circumstances that resulted in the violation.

(5) Penalties provided for in this section shall be imposed pursuant to RCW 43.21B.300. The department shall provide thirty days written notice of a violation as provided in RCW 43.21B.300(3).

(6) For informational purposes, a copy of the notice of violation, resulting from the improper construction of a well, that is sent to a water well contractor or water well construction operator, shall also be sent by the department to the well owner.

(7) Penalties collected by the department pursuant to this section shall be deposited in the reclamation account established by chapter 89.16 RCW. Subject to legislative appropriation, the penalties may be spent only for purposes related to the restoration and enhancement of groundwater resources in the state.

Sec. 10. RCW 18.104.180 and 1993 c 387 s 24 are each amended to read as follows:

No license under this chapter shall be required of:

(1) Any individual who personally constructs a <u>water</u> well on land which is owned or leased by the individual or in which the individual has a beneficial interest as a contract purchaser and is used by the individual for farm or single-family residential use only. An individual who constructs a well without a license pursuant to this subsection shall comply with all other requirements of this chapter and rules adopted by the department, including but not limited to, well construction standards, payment of well construction fees, and notification of well construction required by RCW 18.104.048. An individual without a license may construct not more than one well every two years pursuant to the provisions of this subsection. <u>Decommissioning a well is not authorized under this subsection.</u>

(2) An individual who performs labor or services for a well contractor in connection with the construction of a well at the direction and under the supervision and control of a licensed operator who is present at the construction site.

(3) A person licensed under the provisions of chapter 18.08 or 18.43 RCW if in the performance of duties covered by those licenses.

--- END ---

Attachment B
Well Construction and Licensing Anticipated Fees
Department of Ecology
August 2026

Purpose: Ecology protects consumers and the environment by regulating well drillers and inspecting well construction and decommissioning under authority provided in chapter 18.104 RCW. Ecology will assess and increase well drilling fees, no more than annually, to fully cover all costs associated with Ecology's administrative oversight of well drilling. Ecology's 2027-29 budget request will shift current staff from General Fund-State funding to the Reclamation Revolving Account.

Fees	Current Rate	Proposed Rate	Incremental Change for FY2028
Decommissioning	$50.00	$100.00	$50.00
Dewatering	$40.00	$100.00	$60.00
Ground Source Heat Pump / Grounding	$40 up to 4 borings plus $10 for each additional boring	$80 up to 4 borings plus $20 for each additional boring	Multiple
Ground Source Heat Pump / Grounding Decommissioning	$20.00	$40.00	$20.00
Resource Protection	$40.00	$100.00	$60.00
Resource Protection Decommissioning	$20.00	$50.00	$30.00
Environmental Investigation	$40 up to 4 borings plus $10 for each additional boring	$80 up to 4 borings plus $20 for each additional boring	Multiple
Water (less than 12" in diameter)	$200.00	$250.00	$50.00
Water (12" or greater in diameter)	$300.00	$400.00	$100.00

2027-29 Biennial Budget HEAL Act Template

HEAL Act Requirements

The Healthy Environment for All Act (HEAL Act), Chapter 314, Laws of 2021 (Chapter 70A.02 RCW) requires that "covered and opt in agencies" must implement the requirements of the HEAL Act. This includes the:

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Health
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Transportation
- Puget Sound Partnership
- Office of the Attorney General

HEAL Act agencies that are considering a significant agency action initiated after July 1, 2023, are required to conduct an environmental justice assessment. RCW 70A.02.010(12) specifies that significant agency actions include:

- The development and adoption of significant legislative rules as defined in RCW 34.05.328.
- The development and adoption of any new grant or loan program that the agency is explicitly authorized or required by statute to implement.
- A capital project, grant, or loan award costing at least $12,000,000.
- A transportation project, grant, or loan costing at least $15,000,000.
- The submission of agency request legislation to the Office of the Governor or OFM.

Under RCW 70A.02.080, beginning on or before July 1, 2023, covered and opt in agencies must, where practicable, take specific actions when making expenditure decisions or developing budget requests to OFM and the Legislature for programs that address or may cause environmental harms or provide environmental benefits. This includes:

- Focus applicable expenditures on creating environmental benefits that are experienced by overburdened communities and vulnerable populations, including reducing or eliminating environmental harms, creating community and population resilience, and improving the quality of life of overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.
- Create opportunities for overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to meaningfully participate in agency expenditure decisions.
- Clearly articulate environmental justice goals and performance metrics to communicate the basis for agency expenditures.
- Establish a goal of directing 40% of grants and expenditures that create environmental benefits to vulnerable populations overburdened communities.

Directive 24-11 establishes a requirement to develop a uniform approach for agencies to identify overburdened communities and vulnerable populations to direct and track investments under the Healthy Environment for All (HEAL) Act and Climate Commitment Act (CCA). The guidance for the uniform approach is reviewed and updated on a biennial schedule, with the most current guidance published on the OFM website.

To help OFM understand how HEAL Act agency budget requests meet HEAL Act requirements, covered agencies are required to complete additional questions related to the HEAL Act. These questions are shown below and are in addition to the equity-related questions required by all agencies. Covered agencies are asked to complete the following questions and submit them through ABS.

HEAL Act Questions

If you answer YES to any of the first three questions, please answer the six additional questions and submit them as an attachment through ABS.

1. Is this decision package part of an agency request legislation that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

2. Is this decision package requesting funding to support another significant agency action that is required to complete an environmental justice assessment (RCW 70A.02.010(12)?

   ☐ **Yes** ☒ **No**

3. Is this decision package requesting funding for a program/project/activity that may **provide environmental benefits or reduce, mitigate, or eliminate environmental harms**, (that is not a significant agency action)? Note: This may include decision packages for programs not purposely aimed at providing environmental benefits but may have an indirect or unintentional impact.

   ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**

If you answer YES to any of the above questions, please complete these additional questions.

1. Please describe assumed environmental benefits or mitigation of environmental harm as defined in RCW 70A.02.010 related to your decision package and the associated health impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations.

This request relates to administrative updates and fee increases for well construction across the state and there are no anticipated impacts to overburdened communities and vulnerable populations are expected. By fully funding well construction regulation in Washington, this action will promote safe drilling practices, decommissioning of hazardous abandoned wells, and safe drinking water. These public health outcomes most benefit rural homeowners and businesses without access to public water services. Additionally, the proposed fee increases are a small proportion of the overall well construction costs and would not impede ongoing or planned projects with environmental benefits (e.g., environmental cleanup and monitoring, wastewater facilities, landfills, infrastructure, and research) in overburdened communities or elsewhere.

This request has no impact or connection to Tribal rights, including Tribal water rights, nor on water rights or allocations more generally in Washington state.

2. Does this decision package meet a community need formally identified to a covered agency by an overburdened community or vulnerable population that is consistent with the intent of Chapter 70A.02 RCW? If yes, please explain.

   No, this budget request was not initiated to address a need formally identified to Ecology by an overburdened community or vulnerable population. Outreach for the agency request legislation's environmental justice assessment (EJA) occurred in July 2026 and no community comments were received. During the July 2026 Water Resources Advisory Committee (WRAC) meeting where the agency request legislation was presented, two public comments were received in support of the proposal: (1) a representative from the Kitsap Environmental Coalition (covering Kitsap County) stated that "given the history of inflation and number of years since last fee adjustments, the proposed fee increase appears minimal," and (2) a representative from the City of Ellensburg stated that "the proposed fees are extremely reasonable". Both Kitsap county and Ellensburg contain census tracts with an overall ranking of 9 or higher on the Department of Health's Environmental Health Disparities Map.

3. Does this decision package help the agency achieve environmental justice goals established with the strategic planning requirements in RCW 70A.02.040? If yes, please explain.

   This request supports Ecology's Goal 1: *Support and Engage our Communities, Customers, and Employees* and Goal 4: *Protect and Manage our State's Water* because it will support full cost recovery of Ecology's Well Construction and Licensing Program to ensure a high level of customer service and regulation of well drilling to support safe drilling practices, decommissioning of hazardous

abandoned wells, and safe drinking water in rural communities without access to public water services.

4. Does this decision package include funding to help the agency meet engagement standards established by the Community Engagement Plan required by agencies to implement under the RCW 70A.02.050? If yes, please explain.

   This request does not include direct funding to meet engagement standards, as it relates to administrative updates and fee increases for well construction across the state and impacts to communities are expected to be minimal.

   Less directly, well construction fees are being updated to produce total cost recovery for Ecology's Well Construction and Licensing Program, which provides customer service and technical assistance to the well drilling community and the public.

5. Please describe any potential significant impacts to federally recognized Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands, as well as traditional practices. Describe how your agency engaged with Tribes in developing this proposal. Please include offers for Tribal consultation including timelines, methods for feedback, and mechanisms for Tribes to express concern, opposition, or support., and any direction provided by Tribes through this engagement.

   There are no anticipated significant impacts to Tribal rights and interest in their Tribal lands. including traditional practices.

   Federally recognized Tribes in Washington could be affected by the proposed fee updates in this request if they drill wells in the future. A number of Tribes are involved in toxics cleanup projects and related projects requiring the installation and operation of environmental wells. Ecology organized a Tribal Forum in July 2026 for all proposed 2027 agency request legislation. Ecology also extended invitation to Tribes for Government-to-Government consultation.

6. If the decision package is associated with agency request legislation or constitutes a significant agency action under RCW 70A.02.010(12), please describe how your agency is using the environmental justice assessment process to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate environmental harms and equitably distribute environmental benefits. If an environment justice assessment has already been submitted, please provide a link or submit the assessment as an attachment in ABS in lieu of answering this question.

   This request is associated with proposed 2027 agency request legislation. The EJA is underway and Ecology is using the process to inform the request. Current work focuses on understanding where well users are located, how fee structure changes might affect rural areas without access to public water

systems, and how fee distribution compares across types of wells. Ecology is also evaluating potential effects on Tribes based on preliminary review, with plans to incorporate any concerns identified through consultation. In addition, input received through outreach is being tracked and summarized so it can be reflected in both ongoing analysis and any adjustments to the proposed agency request legislation.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab C-5 Other 277

1. PL RA New or Increased Fee Requests 279

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Agency Recommendation Summary

Ecology will increase the following authorized fees in the 2027-29 biennium: Underground Storage Tank Fee, Biosolids Permit Fee, New Source Review Fee, Lab Accreditation Program Fee, Refrigerant Management Program Fee, and Water Quality Permit Fee. These fees are dedicated revenue for specific environmental protection purposes and are paid by parties requesting the service.

Fiscal Summary

Fiscal Summary *Dollars in Thousands*	Fiscal Years		Biennial	Fiscal Years		Biennial
	2028	2029	2027-29	2030	2031	2029-31
Operating Expenditures						
Fund 001 - 1	$0	$0	**$0**	$0	$0	**$0**
Total Expenditures	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**	**$0**
Revenue						
176 - 0286	$4,000	$8,000	**$12,000**	$8,000	$8,000	**$16,000**
182 - 0299	$142	$290	**$432**	$290	$290	**$580**
199 - 0299	$93	$189	**$282**	$189	$189	**$378**
216 - 0299	$79	$79	**$158**	$79	$79	**$158**
25T - 0299	$1,591	$1,591	**$3,182**	$1,591	$1,591	**$3,182**
30J - 0299	$146	$329	**$475**	$329	$329	**$658**
Total Revenue	**$6,051**	**$10,478**	**$16,529**	**$10,478**	**$10,478**	**$20,956**

Decision Package Description

Ecology manages over 60 different fund sources for a multitude of fee-funded programs. The Office of Financial Management encourages agencies, where feasible, to adjust fees on an annual or biennial basis to ensure revenue covers the cost of administering the program. Ecology will increase the following fees in the 2027-29 biennium to cover inflationary costs like increases in salary, benefits, and central service expenditures. Revenue for these fees is included in this request. No additional expenditure authority is needed at this time.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FEE

1. Fee Name: Underground Storage Tank Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

The Underground Storage Tank (UST) fee for fiscal year 2027 is $258.80 per tank, effective July 1, 2026. RCW 70A.355.080 gives Ecology authority to increase the UST fee according to the Fiscal Growth Factor (FGF) (https://erfc.wa.gov/fiscal-growth-factors) each year with a 15-month notification process. Ecology is required to give public notification of the fee increase by March 1 before the year for which the new fee is effective. To increase the UST fee effective July 1, 2027, Ecology provided notice in March 2026 to the UST owners and publish the new fee in the Washington State Register.

3. Proposed Rate:

Fiscal year 2028: $275.65
Fiscal year 2029: $293.34

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: FGF of 6.51% (fiscal year 2027 rate), or $275.65 per tank from Fiscal year27 base fee.
Fiscal year 2029: FGF of 6.42% (fiscal year 2028 rate), of $293.34 per tank from Fiscal year27 base fee.

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027, for fiscal year 2028 and July 1, 2028, for fiscal year 2029.

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: Ecology estimates that the proposed UST fee increase will generate approximately $142,000 in additional revenue. This estimate is based on the projected number of tank renewals, calculated using a three-year average of renewals from fiscal years 2023-2025 (8,386 tanks).

Applying the fiscal year 2028 FGF, the current UST fee of $258.80 increases to $275.65.

Revenue Comparison:

8,386 tanks x $258.80 fee = $2,170,000 (rounded to thousands)
8,386 tanks x $275.65 fee = $2,312,000 (rounded to thousands)

Estimated revenue increase = $142,000

Fiscal year 2029: Ecology estimates that the proposed UST fee increase will generate approximately $290,000 in additional revenue. This estimate is based on the projected number of tank renewals, calculated using a three-year average of renewals from fiscal years 2023-2025 (8,386 tanks).

Applying the fiscal year 2029 FGF, the fiscal year 2028 UST fee of $275.65 increases to $293.34.

Revenue Comparison:

8,386 tanks x $258.80 fee = $2,170,000 (rounded to thousands)
8,386 tanks x $293.34 fee = $2,460,000 (rounded to thousands)

Estimated revenue increase = $290,000

Implementing UST fee increases of 6.51% in fiscal year 2028, and 6.42% in fiscal year 2029 will continue to keep the positive balance in the UST Account at the end of the 2028-29 biennium. Without these steps, the fund balance could erode over time due to inflation and other legislative increases as described in question seven. A two-month minimum fund balance based on the current estimated 2028-29 carryforward level would equal $383,333.

7. Justification: Ecology's UST program regulates more than 8,000 USTs used to store petroleum products. It is a federally delegated program from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The program provides preventative inspections, technical assistance, and seeks to have all UST systems installed, managed, and monitored to prevent releases of toxics into the environment.

UST fees were implemented in 1998 to fund the UST regulatory program. Currently, the fees do not cover the entire cost of the program, which is funded by a combination of federal grants, Model Toxics Control Operating Account (MTCA Operating) funding, and the per tank fee. In previous fiscal years, federal cuts to EPA's budget have resulted in reductions in grant funding for USTs and cleanup of leaking tanks. Since fiscal year 2017, the level of federal grant awards has stabilized. However, the past reductions created a funding gap in the UST program. At the same time, operational costs continue to increase, for instance state mandated salary increases, health care benefits, and legal services. MTCA Operating funding helps bridge the funding gap and provides state match for the federal grant, but MTCA Operating is anticipated to see shortfalls in the near future due to declining revenues deposited in that account. This gap will continue to grow without regular UST fee increases.

RCW 90.76.030 gives Ecology authority to increase the UST fee according to the FGF each year. By continuing to increase the UST fee each year by the FGF, the funding gap will be managed and not worsen. If this gap continues to grow, funds will have to be diverted from other important state funded programs to cover the cost of regulating USTs, or the program will have to be cut back.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: Without a UST fee increase, Ecology would consider its options for managing the regulatory program. These options may include reducing the program or divert funds from other important state funded programs to cover the revenue gap.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

No statutory changes are required. Ecology has authority in RCW 70A.355.080 to increase the UST fee up to the FGF each year.

BIOSOLIDS PERMIT FEE

1. Fee Name: Biosolids Permit Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

The Biosolids Permit fee rates are based on various factors dependent on the facility type outlined in WAC 173-308-320: an annual fee of $1,210.32 plus an additional fee for each resident the system serves (or residential equivalent) which is determined by a formula ranging from $0.092 to $0.430. Average permit fee = $3,769.01. Fees are collected in the Biosolids Permit Account.

3. Proposed Rate:

Fiscal year 2028: $1,536,695
Fiscal year 2029: $1,633,353

The 1997 Legislature unanimously authorized the biosolids permit fee program (Chapter 70A.226 RCW, WAC 173-308-320). Stakeholders supported an innovative approach that adjusts fees annually, based on the size of the facility (Residential Equivalent Value per Chapter 173-224 WAC), and the state Fiscal Growth Factor (FGF). Ecology established a new base year for permit fees in 2008 but has tried to minimize costs to fee payers and has not sought regular annual increments as provided for by rule.

Ecology is authorized to adjust the Biosolids Permit fee annually according to RCW 70A.226.030. Ecology is planning to increase fees for the 2027-29 biennium by the FGF of 6.42% in fiscal year 2028 and 6.29% in fiscal year 2029. The revenue estimates are based on the fiscal year 2025 revenue actuals of $1,274,065.

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: FGF of 6.42% (fiscal year 2028 rate)
Fiscal year 2029: FGF of 6.29% (fiscal year 2029 rate)

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: $92,704
Fiscal year 2029: $189,362

7. Justification: WAC 173-308-320 (4) instructs Ecology to adjust fees by the annual fiscal growth factor each fiscal year. Without increasing fees, Biosolids Permit Account fund balance will continue to decline until the account is overdrawn.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: The alternative would be not to increase fees. However, a fee increase is needed to maintain a positive projected fund balance in the Biosolids Permit Account for the 2027-29 biennium.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

WATER QUALITY PERMIT FEES

1. Fee Name: Water Quality Permit Fees

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

The Water Quality Permit fee rates are based on various factors, dependent on permit fee category, as outlined in Chapter 173-224 WAC. Fees are collected in the Water Quality Permit Account.

3. Proposed Rate:

Typically, Water Quality Permit fees are adjusted every two years to account for inflationary costs. For the 2027-29 biennium, Ecology's Water Quality Program will also need to adjust the fees to mitigate the legislative fund shifts and transfers enacted in the 2026 supplemental budget. Ecology believes an increase in most fee categories will be significant for the 2027-29 biennium, depending on economic influences and any adjustments in Ecology's permit administration work. Ecology's workload could increase if permit complexity increases or additional staffing is required due to any increases in areas like community engagement, inspections and enforcement work. Fee adjustments for the 2027-29 biennium will be based on: 1) actual fiscal years 2025 and 2026 revenue, taking into consideration revenue and expenditure trends for the last decade; 2) inflationary cost increases (e.g., salaries, benefits, central services charges, etc.); and 3) any 2027-29 biennium budget impacts.

Ecology filed its CR-101 for Chapter 173-224 WAC rulemaking in July 2026. Ecology will draft language proposing to amend the rule in March 2027 in preparation for the public comment period and will have a better understanding at that time which fee increases are needed. For this request, estimated fee increases are based on the proposed FGFs for fiscal year 2028 and fiscal year 2029.

Fiscal year 2028: The rate structure in place for fiscal year 2027 will be carried over to fiscal year 2028 and increased by the rate necessary to fund base operations and any proposed budget changes. If there is not a significant loss in revenue for some unforeseen reason, Ecology estimates that most fee increases will be up to 6.42%, or the FGF.

Fiscal year 2029: The rate structure in place for fiscal year 2028 will be carried over to fiscal year 2029 and increased by the rate necessary to fund base operations and any proposed budget changes. If there is not a significant loss in revenue for some unforeseen reason, Ecology estimates that most fee increases will be up to 6.29%, or the FGF.

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: FGF of 6.42% (fiscal year 2028 rate)
Fiscal year 2029: FGF of 6.29% (fiscal year 2029 rate)

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: Ecology estimates $4,000,000 in new revenue from fee categories.
Fiscal year 2029: $8,000,000 = $4,000,000 from fiscal year 2028 increases plus $4,000,000 fiscal year 2029 estimated increases.

7. Justification: The request is necessary to maintain a positive fund balance and to continue core services to administer Ecology's Water Quality Permit Program. Permit fees support the work of staff writing permits that set pollution limits, staff who provide technical support for solving pollution problems, and inspectors who monitor compliance through site visits. The permit fees outlined in Chapter 173-224 WAC implement requirements from RCW 90.48.465.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: Ecology explored the option of not doing a fee increase for the 2027-29 biennium. However, without fee increases to keep pace with inflationary cost increases, a fund shift, and a fund transfer, revenue collected next biennium would not sufficiently cover the carryforward level authorized by the Legislature. Furthermore, if we do not adjust fees, we would lose the opportunity to continue moving towards payment equity between our over and under paying fee categories, which is very important to both Ecology and our permittees.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

No statutory changes are required. Chapter 173-224 WAC will be revised to implement the fee changes. Regular revisions to Chapter 173-224 WAC to adjust permit fees are already included in the program plan.

NEW SOURCE REVIEW FEE

1. Fee Name: New Source Review Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

The New Source Review fee is $119 per hour plus flat fees for projects that cover permitting time up to a specified amount of hours depending on complexity. RCW 70A.15.2210 gives Ecology the authority to require notice of the establishment of proposed new sources of air contaminants and collect a fee to cover the cost to administer the notification. Fees are collected in the Air Pollution Control Account.

3. Proposed Rate:

Fiscal year 2028: $141 per hour with an 18% increase to flat fees
Fiscal year 2029: $141 per hour with an 18% increase to flat fees

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: 18% above fiscal year 2025 base fee
Fiscal year 2029: 18% above fiscal year 2025 base fee

5. Expected Implementation Date: July 1, 2027, and July 1, 2028.

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: $79,362 based on the hourly rate and flat fee adjustments with current workload
Fiscal year 2029: $79,362 based on the hourly rate and flat fee adjustments with current workload

7. Justification: Consistent with other Air Quality Fees, Ecology has statutory authority to collect fees sufficient to cover the costs to administer the program. The increase in fees will cover the costs to administer notifications of proposed new sources of contaminants. The New Source Review schedule under rule in Chapter 173-455 WAC will reflect the actual program costs using a workload model and standard agency costs for staff time.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: The alternative is not to adjust the fee; however, this is not ideal because the current program is not fully supported by the existing fee schedule.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

No statutory changes are required. Ecology has authority in RCW 70A.15.2210 to collect fees sufficient to cover the costs of administering notifications of proposed new sources of air contaminants.

LAB ACCREDITATION FEES

1. Fee Name: Lab Accreditation Fees

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

WAC 173-50-190 establishes a fee schedule for Laboratory Accreditation fees and prescribes annual increases based on the Fiscal Growth Factor (FGF). A table provided in rule assigns a fee per parameter or method for various categories of analyses.

Current fees per parameter or method range from $235 to $1,445. Fees are collected in the Laboratory Accreditation Account.

3. Proposed Rate:

Fiscal year 2028: Based on preliminary FGF estimates, beginning July 1st, 2027, fees per parameter or method are estimated to range from$250 to $1,540.

Fiscal year 2029: Based on preliminary FGF estimates, beginning July 1st, 2028, fees per parameter or method are estimated to range from$270 to $1,640.

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: 6.42% based on preliminary FGF estimates. Individual fee per parameter/method changes range from $5 to $95.
Fiscal year 2029: 6.29% based on preliminary FGF estimates. Individual fee per parameter/method changes range from $5 to $100.

5. Expected Implementation Date: WAC 173-50-190 requires annual fee changes based on the FGF beginning July 1 of each fiscal year.

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: $146,381
Fiscal year 2029: $329,033

7. Justification: Annual fee increases based on changes to the FGF are required by rule.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: None. Annual fee increases based on changes to the FGF are required by rule.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

REFRIGERANT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM FEE

1. Fee Name: Refrigerant Management Program Fee

2. Current Tax or Fee Rate:

Ecology sets a yearly implementation fee for Refrigerant Management Program registrants who have equipment with more than 200 pounds of refrigerants with a global warming potential greater than 150 (WAC 173-443-135). This fee helps cover the costs of administering the program. Under WAC 173-455-160, Ecology may adjust the fee yearly to cover projected program costs and to maintain a sufficiency of funds. Because

Under WAC 173-455-160, Ecology may adjust the fee yearly to cover projected program costs and to maintain a sufficiency of funds. Because revenues will not support projected program costs, Ecology must adjust fees to increase revenues. The current fee for fiscal year 2026 is $0.15 per Metric Tons of Carbon Dioxide (MTCO2), effective January 1, 2026. Fees are collected in to Refrigerant Emissions Management Account (REMA).

3. Proposed Rate:

Fiscal year 2028: $0.45 per MTC02
Fiscal year 2029: $0.45 per MTC02

4. Incremental Change for Each Year:

Fiscal year 2028: $0.30 per MTC02
Fiscal year 2029: $0.30 per MTC02

5. Expected Implementation Date: January 1, 2027.

6. Estimated Additional Revenue Generated by Increase:

Fiscal year 2028: $1,591,198
Fiscal year 2029: $1,591,198

7. Justification: The proposal to increase the MTC02 fee from $0.15 in fiscal year 2026 to $0.45 in fiscal year 2027 is an adjustment designed to support the long-term financial stability of the REMA. This increase would stabilize the program's revenue base and improves future cash projections, ensuring the REMA can continue meeting regulatory obligations and service demands.

A key driver for this adjustment is the anticipated growth in registration volume as new entities are registered. The additional revenue created by the fee increase will provide the financial capacity needed to support the operational needs for managing expanded workload. In addition to meeting immediate operational needs, the increased fee will enhance durability within the fee structure and contribute to the program's working capital reserve. Building this reserve is critical for managing revenue fluctuations, sustaining core operations, and maintaining program resilience over time.

8. Changes in Who Pays: No change.

9. Changes in Methodology: No change.

10. RecSum Code: RA

11. Alternatives: Without a fee increase, Ecology would need to consider its options for managing the regulatory program. These options may include reducing the program or diverting funds from other state-funded programs to cover the revenue gap.

12. Statutory Change Required?
No

Assumptions and Calculations

Expansion, Reduction, Elimination or Alteration of a current program or service:

N/A

Detailed Assumptions and Calculations:

N/A

Workforce Assumptions:

N/A

Historical Funding:

N/A

Strategic and Performance Outcomes

Strategic Framework:

N/A

Performance Outcomes:

N/A

Equity Impacts

Community Outreach and Engagement:

N/A

Disproportional Impact Considerations:

N/A

Target Communities and Populations:

N/A

Community Inputs and Incorporation:

N/A

Other Collateral Connections

HEAL Act Agencies Supplemental Questions

N/A

Puget Sound Recovery:

N/A

State Workforce Impacts:

N/A

Intergovernmental:

N/A

Stakeholder Impacts:

N/A

State Facilities Impacts:

N/A

Changes from Current Law:

N/A

Legal or Administrative Mandates:

N/A

Governor's Salmon Strategy:

N/A

IT Addendum

Does this Decision Package include funding for any IT-related costs, including hardware, software, (including cloud-based services), contracts or IT staff?

No

Agency Contact Information

Aaron Hubler
(360) 742-7903
ahub461@ecy.wa.gov

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab D Other Reports 289

1. 2027-29 Summarized Revenues by Account and Source 291
2. 2027-29 Revenue Descriptions 305
3. 2027-29 Proposed Fee Changes 317
4. 2027-29 Working Capital Reserve 321
5. 2027-29 Fund Transfers List 323
6. 2027-29 Puget Sound Action Agenda List Operating 327
7. 2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates 329
8. 2027-29 Federal Funding Reduction Summary 341

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Dollars in Thousands

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
001 - General Fund							
0285 - Water Resources Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	367	378	0	0			
FF - 2027-29 Cost Savings Options	280	280	0	0			
Total - 0285 - Water Resources Fees - S	647	658	0	0	647	658	1,305
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	5	5	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	5	5	0	0	5	5	10
0311 - Dept of Commerce - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	22,418	23,079	0	0			
Total - 0311 - Dept of Commerce - F	22,418	23,079	0	0	22,418	23,079	45,497
0315 - Dept of Interior - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	25,380	26,130	0	0			
FE - 2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits	15	47	0	0			
Total - 0315 - Dept of Interior - F	25,395	26,177	0	0	25,395	26,177	51,572
0355 - Fed Rev Non-Assist - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	3,421	3,522	0	0			
Total - 0355 - Fed Rev Non-Assist - F	3,421	3,522	0	0	3,421	3,522	6,943
0366 - Environ Protection A - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	90,867	93,549	0	0			
Total - 0366 - Environ Protection A - F	90,867	93,549	0	0	90,867	93,549	184,416
0381 - Dept of Energy - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	9,319	9,594	0	0			
Total - 0381 - Dept of Energy - F	9,319	9,594	0	0	9,319	9,594	18,913
0397 - Homeland Security - F							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1,764	1,816	0	0			
Total - 0397 - Homeland Security - F	1,764	1,816	0	0	1,764	1,816	3,580
0402 - Income From Property - S							

Date Run: 9/11/2026 10:45:40AM

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1	0	0	0			
Total - 0402 - Income From Property - S	1	0	0	0	1		1
0416 - Sale of Prop/Other - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	17	18	0	0			
Total - 0416 - Sale of Prop/Other - S	17	18	0	0	17	18	35
0541 - Contributions Grants - P/L							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,494	2,605	0	0			
Total - 0541 - Contributions Grants - P/L	2,494	2,605	0	0	2,494	2,605	5,099
0546 - Federal Revenue - P/L							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	137	143	0	0			
Total - 0546 - Federal Revenue - P/L	137	143	0	0	137	143	280
0597 - Reimburs Contracts - P/L							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	28,747	29,310	0	0			
FE - 2027-29 WCC Member Wages & Benefits	71	214	0	0			
Total - 0597 - Reimburs Contracts - P/L	28,818	29,524	0	0	28,818	29,524	58,342
001 - General Fund - State	**670**	**681**			**670**	**681**	**1,351**
001 - General Fund - Federal	**153,184**	**157,737**			**153,184**	**157,737**	**310,921**
001 - General Fund - Private/Local	**31,449**	**32,272**			**31,449**	**32,272**	**63,721**
Total - 001 - General Fund	**185,303**	**190,690**			**185,303**	**190,690**	**375,993**
027 - Reclamation Account							
0266 - Power Licenses - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	860	860	0	0			
Total - 0266 - Power Licenses - S	860	860	0	0	860	860	1,720
0287 - Well Const And Licen - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1,100	1,200	0	0			
DD - Well Construction and Licensing	0	0	736	736			
Total - 0287 - Well Const And Licen - S	1,100	1,200	736	736	1,836	1,936	3,772
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2	2	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	2	2	0	0	2	2	4
027 - Reclamation Account - State	**1,962**	**2,062**	**736**	**736**	**2,698**	**2,798**	**5,496**
Total - 027 - Reclamation Account	**1,962**	**2,062**	**736**	**736**	**2,698**	**2,798**	**5,496**
044 - Waste Reduct/Recycle							
0406 - Litter Control Reven - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	0	1	0	0			
Total - 0406 - Litter Control Reven - S	0	1	0	0		1	1
0499 - Other Revenue - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1	1	0	0			
Total - 0499 - Other Revenue - S	1	1	0	0	1	1	2
044 - Waste Reduct/Recycle - State	**1**	**2**			**1**	**2**	**3**
Total - 044 - Waste Reduct/Recycle	**1**	**2**			**1**	**2**	**3**
05W - St Drought Prep Acct							
0499 - Other Revenue - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2	2	0	0			
Total - 0499 - Other Revenue - S	2	2	0	0	2	2	4
05W - St Drought Prep Acct - State	**2**	**2**			**2**	**2**	**4**
Total - 05W - St Drought Prep Acct	**2**	**2**			**2**	**2**	**4**
08R - Waste Tire Removal A							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	11	11	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	11	11	0	0	11	11	22
08R - Waste Tire Removal A - State	**11**	**11**			**11**	**11**	**22**
Total - 08R - Waste Tire Removal A	**11**	**11**			**11**	**11**	**22**

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
10G - Water Rights T Acct							
0285 - Water Resources Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	98	103	0	0			
FF - 2027-29 Cost Savings Options	70	70	0	0			
Total - 0285 - Water Resources Fees - S	168	173	0	0	168	173	341
10G - Water Rights T Acct - State	**168**	**173**			**168**	**173**	**341**
Total - 10G - Water Rights T Acct	**168**	**173**			**168**	**173**	**341**
116 - Basic Data Account							
0427 - Property/Resc Mgmt - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	50	50	0	0			
Total - 0427 - Property/Resc Mgmt - S	50	50	0	0	50	50	100
116 - Basic Data Account - State	**50**	**50**			**50**	**50**	**100**
Total - 116 - Basic Data Account	**50**	**50**			**50**	**50**	**100**
11J - Electronic Recycling							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	356	356	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	356	356	0	0	356	356	712
11J - Electronic Recycling - State	**356**	**356**			**356**	**356**	**712**
Total - 11J - Electronic Recycling	**356**	**356**			**356**	**356**	**712**
16T - Product Stewardship							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	0	0	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	0	0	0	0			
16T - Product Stewardship - State							
Total - 16T - Product Stewardship							

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
16V - Water Rights Process							
0285 - Water Resources Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	5	5	0	0			
Total - 0285 - Water Resources Fees - S	5	5	0	0	5	5	10
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	6	6	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	6	6	0	0	6	6	12
16V - Water Rights Process - State	**11**	**11**			**11**	**11**	**22**
Total - 16V - Water Rights Process	**11**	**11**			**11**	**11**	**22**
176 - Water Quality Permit							
0286 - Water Quality Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	36,500	38,500	0	0			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	4,000	8,000			
Total - 0286 - Water Quality Fees - S	36,500	38,500	4,000	8,000	40,500	46,500	87,000
176 - Water Quality Permit - State	**36,500**	**38,500**	**4,000**	**8,000**	**40,500**	**46,500**	**87,000**
Total - 176 - Water Quality Permit	**36,500**	**38,500**	**4,000**	**8,000**	**40,500**	**46,500**	**87,000**
182 - Underground Storage							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,306	2,306	0	0			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	142	290			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	2,306	2,306	142	290	2,448	2,596	5,044
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	35	35	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	35	35	0	0	35	35	70
182 - Underground Storage - State	**2,341**	**2,341**	**142**	**290**	**2,483**	**2,631**	**5,114**
Total - 182 - Underground Storage	**2,341**	**2,341**	**142**	**290**	**2,483**	**2,631**	**5,114**

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
199 - Biosolids Permit Acc							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1,519	1,614	0	0			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	93	189			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	1,519	1,614	93	189	1,612	1,803	3,415
199 - Biosolids Permit Acc - State	**1,519**	**1,614**	**93**	**189**	**1,612**	**1,803**	**3,415**
Total - 199 - Biosolids Permit Acc	**1,519**	**1,614**	**93**	**189**	**1,612**	**1,803**	**3,415**
207 - Hazardous Waste							
0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	4,285	4,348	0	0			
DC - Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees	0	0	688	708			
Total - 0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S	4,285	4,348	688	708	4,973	5,056	10,029
207 - Hazardous Waste - State	**4,285**	**4,348**	**688**	**708**	**4,973**	**5,056**	**10,029**
Total - 207 - Hazardous Waste	**4,285**	**4,348**	**688**	**708**	**4,973**	**5,056**	**10,029**
20R - Radioactive MW Acct							
0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	14,379	14,321	0	0			
FC - Hanford Site Technical Correction	989	989	0	0			
Total - 0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S	15,368	15,310	0	0	15,368	15,310	30,678
20R - Radioactive MW Acct - State	**15,368**	**15,310**			**15,368**	**15,310**	**30,678**
Total - 20R - Radioactive MW Acct	**15,368**	**15,310**			**15,368**	**15,310**	**30,678**
216 - Air Pollution Ctl Ac							
0225 - Burning Permit Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	374	375	0	0			
Total - 0225 - Burning Permit Fees - S	374	375	0	0	374	375	749
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,039	2,107	0	0			

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
DA - Landfill Methane Fees Exp Authority	0	0	200	200			
DE - Achieving Statutory Decarbonization	0	0	45	2,074			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	79	79			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	2,039	2,107	324	2,353	2,363	4,460	6,823
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	73	84	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	73	84	0	0	73	84	157
216 - Air Pollution Ctl Ac - State	**2,486**	**2,566**	**324**	**2,353**	**2,810**	**4,919**	**7,729**
Total - 216 - Air Pollution Ctl Ac	**2,486**	**2,566**	**324**	**2,353**	**2,810**	**4,919**	**7,729**
219 - Air Operating Perm A							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,956	2,965	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	2,956	2,965	0	0	2,956	2,965	5,921
219 - Air Operating Perm A - State	**2,956**	**2,965**			**2,956**	**2,965**	**5,921**
Total - 219 - Air Operating Perm A	**2,956**	**2,965**			**2,956**	**2,965**	**5,921**
21H - WWT Plant Oper Cert							
0271 - Sewage Trtmt Op Fee - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	370	370	0	0			
Total - 0271 - Sewage Trtmt Op Fee - S	370	370	0	0	370	370	740
21H - WWT Plant Oper Cert - State	**370**	**370**			**370**	**370**	**740**
Total - 21H - WWT Plant Oper Cert	**370**	**370**			**370**	**370**	**740**
223 - Oil Spill Resp							
0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	400	400	0	0			
Total - 0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S	400	400	0	0	400	400	800
223 - Oil Spill Resp - State	**400**	**400**			**400**	**400**	**800**

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
Total - 223 - Oil Spill Resp	**400**	**400**			**400**	**400**	**800**
22G - Photovolt Mod Rcycl							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	0	0	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	0	0	0	0			
22G - Photovolt Mod Rcycl - State							
Total - 22G - Photovolt Mod Rcycl							
22K - Wtrshd Rstrtn Enhnc							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	275	275	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	275	275	0	0	275	275	550
22K - Wtrshd Rstrtn Enhnc - State	**275**	**275**			**275**	**275**	**550**
Total - 22K - Wtrshd Rstrtn Enhnc	**275**	**275**			**275**	**275**	**550**
23N - MTC Capital Account							
0409 - Interest Income - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	17	17	0	0			
Total - 0409 - Interest Income - S	17	17	0	0	17	17	34
0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	4,570	4,571	0	0			
Total - 0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S	4,570	4,571	0	0	4,570	4,571	9,141
23N - MTC Capital Account - State	**4,587**	**4,588**			**4,587**	**4,588**	**9,175**
Total - 23N - MTC Capital Account	**4,587**	**4,588**			**4,587**	**4,588**	**9,175**
23P - MTC Operating Acct							
0402 - Income From Property - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	130	131	0	0			

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
Total - 0402 - Income From Property - S	130	131	0	0	130	131	261
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	161	161	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	161	161	0	0	161	161	322
0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	150	150	0	0			
Total - 0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S	150	150	0	0	150	150	300
23P - MTC Operating Acct - State	**441**	**442**			**441**	**442**	**883**
Total - 23P - MTC Operating Acct	**441**	**442**			**441**	**442**	**883**
23V - Voluntary Cleanup Ac							
0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	285	285	0	0			
DB - Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program	0	0	385	385			
Total - 0434 - Hazard Waste Cleanup - S	285	285	385	385	670	670	1,340
23V - Voluntary Cleanup Ac - State	**285**	**285**	**385**	**385**	**670**	**670**	**1,340**
Total - 23V - Voluntary Cleanup Ac	**285**	**285**	**385**	**385**	**670**	**670**	**1,340**
23W - Paint Prod Stewd Acc							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	80	80	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	80	80	0	0	80	80	160
23W - Paint Prod Stewd Acc - State	**80**	**80**			**80**	**80**	**160**
Total - 23W - Paint Prod Stewd Acc	**80**	**80**			**80**	**80**	**160**
25Q - Clean Fuels Prog Acc							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,518	2,519	0	0			
DE - Achieving Statutory Decarbonization	0	0	46	46			

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	2,518	2,519	46	46	2,564	2,565	5,129
25Q - Clean Fuels Prog Acc - State	**2,518**	**2,519**	**46**	**46**	**2,564**	**2,565**	**5,129**
Total - 25Q - Clean Fuels Prog Acc	**2,518**	**2,519**	**46**	**46**	**2,564**	**2,565**	**5,129**
25R - Recycled Content Acc							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	300	300	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	300	300	0	0	300	300	600
25R - Recycled Content Acc - State	**300**	**300**			**300**	**300**	**600**
Total - 25R - Recycled Content Acc	**300**	**300**			**300**	**300**	**600**
25S - RecyclingEnhancemAcc							
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	100	75	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	100	75	0	0	100	75	175
25S - RecyclingEnhancemAcc - State	**100**	**75**			**100**	**75**	**175**
Total - 25S - RecyclingEnhancemAcc	**100**	**75**			**100**	**75**	**175**
25T - RefriEmissManageAcct							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	1,591	1,591	0	0			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	1,591	1,591			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	1,591	1,591	1,591	1,591	3,182	3,182	6,364
25T - RefriEmissManageAcct - State	**1,591**	**1,591**	**1,591**	**1,591**	**3,182**	**3,182**	**6,364**
Total - 25T - RefriEmissManageAcct	**1,591**	**1,591**	**1,591**	**1,591**	**3,182**	**3,182**	**6,364**
26A - CarbonEmReductionAcc							
0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	359,117	300,000	0	0			

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
Total - 0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S	359,117	300,000	0	0	359,117	300,000	659,117
26A - CarbonEmReductionAcc - State	**359,117**	**300,000**			**359,117**	**300,000**	**659,117**
Total - 26A - CarbonEmReductionAcc	**359,117**	**300,000**			**359,117**	**300,000**	**659,117**
28C - Resp Battery Mgmt Ac							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	262	262	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	262	262	0	0	262	262	524
28C - Resp Battery Mgmt Ac - State	**262**	**262**			**262**	**262**	**524**
Total - 28C - Resp Battery Mgmt Ac	**262**	**262**			**262**	**262**	**524**
296 - Col River Bas Wtr Su							
0285 - Water Resources Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	750	750	0	0			
Total - 0285 - Water Resources Fees - S	750	750	0	0	750	750	1,500
0499 - Other Revenue - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	25	25	0	0			
Total - 0499 - Other Revenue - S	25	25	0	0	25	25	50
296 - Col River Bas Wtr Su - State	**775**	**775**			**775**	**775**	**1,550**
Total - 296 - Col River Bas Wtr Su	**775**	**775**			**775**	**775**	**1,550**
30C - Responsible Recyclin							
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	860	860	0	0			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	860	860	0	0	860	860	1,720
30C - Responsible Recyclin - State	**860**	**860**			**860**	**860**	**1,720**
Total - 30C - Responsible Recyclin	**860**	**860**			**860**	**860**	**1,720**
30J - Lab Accredit Acct							

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	2,680	2,843	0	0			
RA - New or Increased Fee Requests	0	0	146	329			
Total - 0299 - Other Licenses Permi - S	2,680	2,843	146	329	2,826	3,172	5,998
30J - Lab Accredit Acct - State	**2,680**	**2,843**	**146**	**329**	**2,826**	**3,172**	**5,998**
Total - 30J - Lab Accredit Acct	**2,680**	**2,843**	**146**	**329**	**2,826**	**3,172**	**5,998**
30P - CCA Operating Acct							
0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	80,000	74,501	0	0			
Total - 0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S	80,000	74,501	0	0	80,000	74,501	154,501
30P - CCA Operating Acct - State	**80,000**	**74,501**			**80,000**	**74,501**	**154,501**
Total - 30P - CCA Operating Acct	**80,000**	**74,501**			**80,000**	**74,501**	**154,501**
30Q - CCA Capital Acct							
0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	99,276	48,876	0	0			
Total - 0460 - Climate Commit Rev - S	99,276	48,876	0	0	99,276	48,876	148,152
30Q - CCA Capital Acct - State	**99,276**	**48,876**			**99,276**	**48,876**	**148,152**
Total - 30Q - CCA Capital Acct	**99,276**	**48,876**			**99,276**	**48,876**	**148,152**
408 - Coastal Protec Acct							
0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	400	400	0	0			
Total - 0405 - Fines, Forfeits - S	400	400	0	0	400	400	800
408 - Coastal Protec Acct - State	**400**	**400**			**400**	**400**	**800**
Total - 408 - Coastal Protec Acct	**400**	**400**			**400**	**400**	**800**
500 - Perpetual Surv/Maint							

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
0427 - Property/Resc Mgmt - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	15	15	0	0			
Total - 0427 - Property/Resc Mgmt - S	15	15	0	0	15	15	30
500 - Perpetual Surv/Maint - State	**15**	**15**			**15**	**15**	**30**
Total - 500 - Perpetual Surv/Maint	**15**	**15**			**15**	**15**	**30**
564 - Water Pollution Cont							
0420 - Charges for Services - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	7,193	7,332	0	0			
Total - 0420 - Charges for Services - S	7,193	7,332	0	0	7,193	7,332	14,525
564 - Water Pollution Cont - State	**7,193**	**7,332**			**7,193**	**7,332**	**14,525**
Total - 564 - Water Pollution Cont	**7,193**	**7,332**			**7,193**	**7,332**	**14,525**
727 - Water Pollution Cont							
0409 - Interest Income - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	20,487	17,740	0	0			
Total - 0409 - Interest Income - S	20,487	17,740	0	0	20,487	17,740	38,227
0866 - Loan Principal Repay - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	75,631	81,481	0	0			
Total - 0866 - Loan Principal Repay - S	75,631	81,481	0	0	75,631	81,481	157,112
727 - Water Pollution Cont - State	**96,118**	**99,221**			**96,118**	**99,221**	**195,339**
Total - 727 - Water Pollution Cont	**96,118**	**99,221**			**96,118**	**99,221**	**195,339**
746 - Hanford Econ Invest							
0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S							
90 - Maintenance Level Revenue	56	57	0	0			
Total - 0294 - Hazardous Waste Fees - S	56	57	0	0	56	57	113
746 - Hanford Econ Invest - State	**56**	**57**			**56**	**57**	**113**

ABS 029 Summarized Revenue by Account and Source
Department of Ecology
Agency Level
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial
Dollars in Thousands

	Maintenance Level		Policy Level		Annual Totals		
	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	FY2028	FY2029	Biennial Total
Total - 746 - Hanford Econ Invest	56	57			56	57	113
Agency: 461 ECY - State	726,385	617,059	8,151	14,627	734,536	631,686	1,366,222
Agency: 461 ECY - Federal	153,184	157,737			153,184	157,737	310,921
Agency: 461 ECY - Private/Local	31,449	32,272			31,449	32,272	63,721
Total - Agency: 461 ECY	911,018	807,068	8,151	14,627	919,169	821,695	1,740,864

Revenue Descriptions

Department of Ecology

September 2026

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
001 - General Fund	02	85	Water Resources Fees	Chapter 90.03 RCW allows the Department of Ecology to levy a charge based upon the amount of water proposed to be appropriated from state waters, and to charge a fee for engineering plan review and inspection of dams. Chapter 90.03 RCW directs that eighty percent of the fee will be deposited into General Fund State while the remaining twenty percent will be deposited into the Water Rights Tracking System Account. 1. Dam Safety Fee (000009): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy fees for the review of plans and specification of dams. Ecology can charge the facility owner the actual cost of the review of plans and specifications of storage dams. Fee for review of plans and specifications are established by 173-175 WAC and are adjusted annually by the fiscal growth factor per chapter 43.135 RCW. 2. Water Rights Tracking System Fee (000011): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy a fee based upon the amount of water proposed to be appropriated from state waters, and to charge a fee for engineering plan reviews of dams. 3. Dam Safety Inspection Fee (000012): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy fees for the inspection of hydraulic works to assure safety. Ecology can charge the facility owner the actual cost of the inspection. The review of periodic inspection fees are established in 173-175 WAC and are adjusted annually by the fiscal growth factor per chapter 43.135 RCW.
001 - General Fund	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Incinerator and Landfill Operator Certification Fees (000045): Chapter 70A.216 RCW authorizes an Incinerator and Landfill Operator Certification program, and fee requirements are defined in WAC 173-300. Incinerator Certification fees are as follows: the examination fee is $50, and certification fees and fees for renewals of certifications after three years are $200 for operators. Inspectors are exempted from fee requirements. In previous years, Ecology has processed an average of five new operator certifications and thirty renewal certifications each year.
30J - Lab Accreditation	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Laboratory Certification Fees (000030): Chapter 43.21A RCW authorizes the Department of Ecology to design a laboratory certification program for those entities which conduct tests or prepare data for submittal to the department. It also authorizes the department to charge fees sufficient to defer the cost of the certification process. Approximately 430 laboratories are certified. Fees are based on the requested scopes of accreditation.
001 - General Fund	03	01-99	Federal Revenue	All federal revenue estimates are based upon historical data as well as current ongoing negotiations. Currently including Department of Commerce, Department of Defense, Department of the Interior, Environmental Protection Agency, Homeland Security, and Federal Assistance-Other.
001 - General Fund	03	55	Federal Revenue Non-Assistance	Federal non-grant revenue is included here. The WCC program contracts with Federal agencies to perform environmental restoration work, primarily the US Forest Service, National Park Service and Fish and Wildlife Service. This reimbursement, while Federal, is not a grant and is recognized in this source.
001 - General Fund	04	02	Padilla Bay Foundation Lease (PBAYFO)	Padilla Bay Foundation lease of land located on the Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
001 - General Fund	04	05	Fines, Forfeits, and Seizures	1. Civil penalties for shoreline permit or shoreline use violations as defined in RCW 90.58.210. 2. Compliance supported 90% by GF-S and 10% by the Reclamation Revolving Account. During times of an official declared drought, Drought Preparedness Account funds may supplement compliance activity. Ecology can levy civil penalties of up to $5,000 per day for violation of the water code and rules, permits, regulatory orders and similar documents.
001 - General Fund	04	09	Interest Income (Local investment)	Water Quality Account Loans: Chapter 70.146 RCW authorized the department to loan grant funds from the Water Quality Account. As of July 1, 2009, the Water Quality Account was abolished and all revenue is now deposited into the State General Fund. Revenue estimates are derived from outstanding loan repayments due during the biennium.
001 - General Fund	04	16	Sale of Property - Other	Surplus Autos (AUTOSS): Revenue generated from the sale of vehicles and other equipment that the Department of Ecology sends to the Department of Enterprise Services for surplus.
001 - General Fund	04	99	Other Revenue	Miscellaneous revenue from various sources and programs across the Department of Ecology that changes biennium to biennium.
001 - General Fund	05	41	Private/Local Contributions and Grants	Contributions and grants from nonfederal sources external to the state. Similar to federal grants, the expenditure of these private/local contribution and grant revenues are restricted by contract or agreement. This source could also include donations to Ecology facilities and programs. Revenue from this source is not estimated, budgeted, or allotted because it is small and infrequent.
001 - General Fund	05	46	Federal Revenue - Pass Through	General Fund Private/Local Pass through Federal Revenue is comprised of federal revenue that is passed through to Ecology via private or local organizations. Revenue estimates are based upon historical data.
001 - General Fund	05	97	Reimbursable Contracts (Reimbursable P/L Contributions)	General Fund private/local reimbursable contracts revenue source is comprised of the following: 1. Hanford Sublease Rent (000052): The State of Washington leases 100 acres of the Hanford Reservation from the U.S. Department of Energy. The Department of Ecology subleases the 100 acres to US Ecology Inc. for operation of a commercial low-level radioactive waste disposal facility. The sublease rate is adjusted every three years based on the consumer price index. 2. Washington Conservation Corps Revenues (Various): Revenues from services provided to local governments by Washington Conservation Corps crews. 3. Cost Reimbursements (CR0000): Voluntary cost-reimbursement monies will be collected under cost-recovery law to reimburse for permitting activities. 4. Other Private Local (OTH000): Other reimbursable contracts with private and local entities for environmental review and other activities.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
027 - Reclamation Account	02	66	Power Licenses	Power License Fees (000001, 000002): Chapter 90.16.050 RCW authorizes the department to charge users of water for power development an annual fee based upon the theoretical waterpower that they will produce in horsepower.
027 - Reclamation Account	02	87	Well Construction and Licensing	1. Water Well Operator's License Fee (000103): RCW 18.104.040, 18.104.070 and 173-162-070; a $75 application fee is charged for each new operator or training license. An existing license is renewable for two years upon payment of a $75 fee. Chapter 18.104 RCW authorizes Ecology to collect well drilling licensing fee and fees associated with the drilling of all wells. It is anticipated that 850 licenses will be issued or renewed each year during the biennium. It is also assumed that 6,000 wells per year will be installed during the biennium. 2. Well Construction & Inspection Fee (000100-102; 000104-109): RCW 18.104.055 authorizes the Department of Ecology to collect well drilling licensing fees and fees associated with the construction of all water wells. Fee is due per occurrence. Counties may receive portion of fee generated revenue to cover partial cost of delegated inspection authority. Chapter 18.104 RCW authorizes Ecology to collect well drilling licensing fee and fees associated with the drilling of all wells. It is anticipated that 850 licenses will be issued or renewed each year during the biennium. It is also assumed that 6,000 wells per year will be installed during the biennium.
027 - Reclamation Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	Well Driller Penalties (000051): Ecology can levee penalties for violation of the well construction laws and rules.
032 - State Emergency Water Projects Revolving Account	04	09	Local Investment Interest	Chapter 43.83B RCW authorizes the department to loan grant funds from the State Emergency Water Projects Revolving Fund.
032 - State Emergency Water Projects Revolving Account	08	66	Loan Principal Repayment	Chapter 43.83B RCW authorizes the department to loan/grant funds from the State Emergency Water Projects Revolving Fund.
044 - Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Litter Control Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures (Litter Fines-Counties)	RCW 70A.200.070 authorizes the collection of penalties for violations of the Waste Reduction, Recycling, and Model Litter Control Act. Revenue from this source is not estimated, budgeted, or allotted because it is typically minimal and infrequent.
05W - State Drought Preparedness Account	04	99	Other Revenue	ESHB 1092 Chapter 520, Laws of 2007 – 2007-09 Capital Budget proviso directs the department to recover all costs from participating domestic water users (cabin owners) for the costs of securing a water right or rights (in WRIA 37, 38 & 39 that have a surface water right with a priority date later than May 10, 1905) associated with the annual operational costs owed to the United States Bureau of Reclamation.
05W - State Drought Preparedness Account	08	66	Loan Principal Repayment	Chapter 43.83B RCW authorizes the department to loan/grant funds from the State Drought Preparedness and Response Account. Revenue estimates were derived from the outstanding loan repayments due during the biennium.
072 - State & Local Improvements Revolving Account (Water Supply Facilities)	04	09	Local Investment Interest	Chapter 43.83B RCW authorizes the department to loan/grant funds from the State and Local Improvements Revolving Account - Water Supply Facilities (Referendum 38). Revenue estimates are derived from the outstanding loan/grant interest payments due during the biennium.
072 - State & Local Improvements Revolving Account (Water Supply Facilities)	08	66	Loan Principal Repayment	Chapter 43.83B RCW authorizes the department to loan/grant funds from the State and Local Improvements Revolving Account Water Supply Facilities (Referendum 38). Revenue estimates are derived from the outstanding loan repayments due during the biennium.
08R - Waste Tire Removal Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Waste tire carrier/storage license fee (000032): RCW 70A.205.445 requires any person engaged in the business of transporting or storing waste tires shall be licensed by the department. DOR collects the fee and transmits it to Ecology. Waste Carrier License: The license costs $250 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The license is renewed annually. Waste Carrier Storage: The license costs $250 for the business.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
10G - Water Rights Tracking System Account	02	85	Water Resources Fees	Chapter 90.03 RCW allows the Department of Ecology to levy a charge based upon the amount of water proposed to be appropriated from state waters, and to charge a fee for engineering plan review and inspection of dams. Chapter 90.03 RCW directs that eighty percent of the fee will be deposited into General Fund State while the remaining twenty percent will deposited into the Water Rights Tracking System Account. 1. Dam Safety Fee (000009): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy fees for the review of plans and specification of dams. Ecology can charge the facility owner the actual cost of the review of plans and specifications of storage dams. Fee for review of plans and specifications are established by 173-175 WAC and are adjusted annually by the fiscal growth factor per chapter 43.135 RCW. 2. Water Rights Tracking System Fee (000011): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy a fee based upon the amount of water proposed to be appropriated from state waters, and to charge a fee for engineering plan reviews of dams. 3. Dam Safety Inspection Fee (000012): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy fees for the inspection of hydraulic works to assure safety. Ecology can charge the facility owner the actual cost of the inspection. The review of periodic inspection fees are established in 173-175 WAC and are adjusted annually by the fiscal growth factor per chapter 43.135 RCW.
116 - Basic Data Account	04	27	Property and Resources Management (Basic Data)	Chapters 43.21 RCW authorizes the department to accept contributions from persons and entities who require information regarding stream flow, ground water and water quality data, or other hydrographic information. Revenue estimates are based upon future information needs and historic trends.
11J - Electronic Products Recycling Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Registration/Renewal Fee (000001): RCW 70A.500.130 creates the Electronic Products Recycling Account, to fund Ecology oversight of electronic products recovery. Ecology is directed to charge fees to cover the costs of the program. Revenue is based on Ecology's authorized spending level for administering the program; fees are calculated based upon market share to create the needed revenue. Collection is approximately $355,000 per fiscal year.
11J - Electronic Products Recycling Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	Electronic Products Recycling Penalty (000061): Electronic products recycling penalties authorized under RCW 70A.500.260 may be assessed against manufacturers that do not comply with the manufacturer registration requirements under RCW 70A.500.040 and deposited into the account. No revenue is estimated for this source because collection is uncommon and unpredictable.
15H - Cleanup Settlement Account	04	99	Other Revenue	Chapter 70A.305 RCW, Model Toxics Control Act, provides authority for the State to enter into settlement agreements with potentially liable parties for payment of funds to be used in future remedial actions or natural resource restoration at sites where the parties are responsible for these actions. In the 2008 Legislative Session, SB 6722 established Fund 15H, Cleanup Settlement Account, to receive these payments of funds to be used for future remedial actions or natural resource restoration.
16T- Mercury-Containing Light Product Stewardship Programs Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Mercury Light Generation Fee (000025): In the 2010 Legislative Session, the Legislature passed ESSB 5543, which established the Product Stewardship Programs Account (16T), and authorized Ecology to charge a fee to be paid by producers of mercury-containing lights that are sold in or into Washington State. In 2014, the Legislature passed ESHB 2246 which updated chapter 70A.505 RCW, allowing the Product Stewardship Organization (PSO) to apply an Environmental Handling Charge (EHC) to each bulb sold. In 2017, the Legislature passed Senate Bill 5762 to allow the PSO, using funds from the EHC, to pay $3,000 per participating producer to Ecology to cover the program's administration and enforcement costs.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
16V- Water Rights Processing Account	02	85	Water Resources Fees	Expedited Water Right Processing Fee (000013): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes the department to process surface water applications using expedited processing of applications within the same water source. This would allow Ecology staff to recover costs of processing applications for those that participate.
16V- Water Rights Processing Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Certified Water Right Examiner Fees (000813): Chapter 90.03 RCW authorizes the department to establish and collect fees for the examination, certification, and renewal of certification of water right examiners. Fees may be adjusted by rule.
176 - Water Quality Permit Account	02	86	Water Quality Fees (Permits)	Ecology establishes fees to recover expenses for issuing and administering wastewater discharge permits under RCW 90.48.465. Fees are based on factors relating to the complexity of permit issuance and compliance. The Water Quality program will administer approximately 7,000 water quality permits.
176 - Water Quality Permit Account	04	09	WWD Interest Income	Chapter 90.48.465 RCW authorizes the department to administer wastewater discharge permits. This source represents various miscellaneous contributions to the fund (e.g. occasional interest fee revenue, revenue from application fees; and recovery of revenue from prior time period). Revenue estimates are derived using prior time period actuals.
182 - Underground Storage Tank Account	02	99	U.S.T. Licenses	Underground Storage Tank Licenses (000033): Chapter 90.76 RCW authorizes the department to develop an underground storage tank program. It also authorizes the department to charge a per tank fee. Revenue estimates were derived from the current underground storage tank database, actual receipts, and tank removals and tank installations.
182 - Underground Storage Tank Account	04	05	U.S.T. Penalties	Underground Storage Tank Penalties (000039): Chapter 90.76 RCW authorizes the department to issue penalties for infractions discovered during periodic inspections of Underground Storage Tank systems. These penalties vary in amount, depending on the severity of the infractions.
199 - Biosolids Permit Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Biosolids Permit (000095): RCW 70A.226.020 authorizes the department to collect permit fees to support permitting and inspecting biosolids generation facilities and application sites. Fees are established in WAC 173-308-320; they are based on the type of facility and number of residential equivalents serviced; Ecology is authorized to adjust the fee schedule once every two years using the fiscal growth factor calculated under chapter 43.135 RCW.
207 - Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	02	94	Hazardous Waste Fees	Hazardous Waste Generation and Planning Fees (000024, 000025): Chapter 70A.218 RCW authorizes the Department to collect fees from hazardous waste generators to conduct a program to reduce such waste. The fees are collected annually and consist of two parts, a hazardous waste generation fee and a planning fee. The $69 hazardous waste generation fee is applied to about 29,000 potential waste generators. The fee is adjusted annually for inflation if the adjustment is at least a $1 increment. The planning fee varies by amount of waste generated and was capped at a base amount of $10,000 per facility in 1992 and adjusted annually for inflation which currently puts the cap at $27,674 per facility. The overall cap for the planning fee is also adjusted annually for inflation and is currently capped at $2,767,400. The planning fee is applied to about 484 firms.
207 - Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	04	09	State Charges & Misc. Revenue	Hazardous Waste Generation and Planning Fee Interest (000024): In administration of Chapter 70A.218 for the enforcement and collection of fees from hazardous waste generators, the department may apply RCW 43.17.240 which allows the department to charge interest on the costs associated with conducting a program to reduce such waste.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
20R - Radioactive Mixed Waste Account	02	94	Hazardous Waste Fees	Mixed Waste Fees (000300-304): Chapter 70A.300.460 RCW authorizes the department to assess the Mixed Waste Management Fee for regulation of radioactive mixed waste facilities. The Nuclear Waste Program bills the US Department of Energy at Hanford and three other mixed waste facilities. The Mixed Waste Management Fee is adjusted annually to fund program costs to implement 70.105 RCW and WAC 173-303 at radioactive mixed waste facilities.
216 - Air Pollution Control Account	02	25	Agricultural Burning Permit Fees	Agricultural Burning Permit Fees (000037): RCW 70A.15.5090 allows for collection of fees for agricultural burning permits. Fees are assessed at the statutory cap of $3.75 per acre for field stubble burning and $1.00 per ton for agricultural pile burning. The fees collected will cover the costs of the agricultural burn program and are divided between local administration, research, and smoke management.
216 - Air Pollution Control Account	02	99	Facility Permit Fees	1. Air Fees (000404): RCW 70A.15.2210 allows for fees to be collected to cover the cost of certain agency air quality permitting activities, including New Source Review, Notice of Construction, and Control Technology reviews. 2. Air Contaminate Source Registration Fee (000800): RCW 70A.15.2200 allows for the collection of fees from certain small to mid-sized air emission sources. Annual fees are set in rule based on a workload model and vary per source based on pollutants and annual emissions. 3. Greenhouse Gas Reporting Fee (000811): RCW 70A.15.2200 allows Ecology to collect annual fees from facilities and suppliers required to report greenhouse gas emissions. The fees cover the administrative costs of the greenhouse gas reporting program.
216 - Air Pollution Control Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	Air Penalty (000041): Chapter 70A.15 RCW authorizes Ecology to levy fines on individuals and/or entities that do not comply with Clean Air legislation.
217 - Oil Spill Prevention Account	04	34	Hazardous Waste Cleanup Recoveries	Spills/Oil Related Cost Recovery (CP0022): Chapter 90.56 RCW authorizes the department to recover costs relating to the unlawful discharge of oil into waters of the state.
219 - Air Operating Permit Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Air Operating Fees (000803, 000807): RCW 70A.15.2270 authorizes Ecology to collect fees to administer an Air Operating Permit Program for large industrial sources. Fees established are based on a sliding scale and cover all direct and indirect program costs.
21H - Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator Certification Account	02	71	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	RCW 70A.212.100 authorizes Ecology to establish rules for the collection of fees for the issuance and renewal of sewage treatment plant operator licenses. Revenue estimates are based on the number of new and renewal of applications multiplied by the rates (Group I application fee $75; other groups application fee $125; renewal fee $200).
223 - Oil Spill Response Account	04	34	Hazardous Waste Cleanup Recoveries	Spills/Oil Related Cost Recovery (CP0022): Chapter 90.56 RCW authorizes the department to recover costs relating to the unlawful discharge of oil into waters of the state. Revenue estimates were derived from historical data.
22G - Photovoltaic Module Recycling Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	RCW 70A.510.010 authorizes Ecology to collect fees from participating manufacturers to recover costs associated with plan guidance, review, and approval of photovoltaic module stewardship and takeback programs. HB 1393, enacted July 25, 2021, delayed program requirements, which has suspended administrative costs and the fee; the fee will be reinstated when the program is resumed before July 1, 2024 when manufacturers are required to submit stewardship plans to Ecology.
22K - Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Act Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	The department receives funds from local governments for collection of fees on building permits for buildings that rely on a permit exempt well for a water source.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
23N - Model Toxics Control Capital Account	04	09	Local Investment Interest	TCP Interest-Cost Recovery (ECYINT): Chapter 70A.305 RCW allows the department to charge interest on the costs associated with cleaning up a hazardous waste site. Revenue estimates are based upon historical data.
23N - Model Toxics Control Capital Account	04	34	Hazardous Waste Cleanup Recoveries	1. Cost Recovery (ECY000, CP0020, CP0021, CP0022, ECYK00, ECYM00, ECYN00, RCRA000): Chapter 70A.305 RCW allows the department to recover costs associated with the cost of cleaning up a hazardous waste site. Revenues are based on historical data for funds recovered from hazardous waste cleanup activities. 2. Voluntary Cleanup (005001): In order to provide additional incentives for Potentially Liable Parties (PLP) to initiate independent cleanups, the Toxics Cleanup Program is authorized by Chapter 70A.305 RCW to provide informal advice and assistance to persons conducting or otherwise interested in independent remedial actions. The department may charge fees in order to recoup the costs of providing this service. Revenues are based on historical data.
23P - Model Toxics Control Operating Account	04	02	Income from Property (EPA LEASE)	Environmental Protection Agency leases office space at the Department of Ecology Headquarters building in Lacey.
23P - Model Toxics Control Operating Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	Penalties are authorized under multiple chapters in Title 70A to be deposited in the MTCA Operating Account. Revenue estimates are based upon historical data.
23P - Model Toxics Control Operating Account	04	34	Hazardous Waste Cleanup Recoveries	1. Cost Recovery (CP0021): Chapter 70A.305 RCW allows the department to recover costs associated with the cost of cleaning up a hazardous waste site. Revenues are based on historical data for funds recovered from hazardous waste cleanup activities. 2. Voluntary Cleanup (005001): In order to provide additional incentives for Potentially Liable Parties (PLP) to initiate independent cleanups, the Toxics Cleanup Program is authorized by Chapter 70A.305 RCW to provide informal advice and assistance to persons conducting or otherwise interested in independent remedial actions. The department may charge fees in order to recoup the costs of providing this service. Revenues are based on historical data.
23P - Model Toxics Control Operating Account	05	97	Reimbursable Private/Local Contracts	Recovered LUST (00009B): MTCA Operating private local contributions are comprised of expenditures of recovered LUST funds. Revenues are based on historical data.
23V - Voluntary Cleanup Account	04	34	Hazardous Waste Cleanup Recoveries	Fees and Cost Recovery (5X0000, 5X0001, 5X0000): RCW 70A.305.170 provides additional incentives for Potentially Liable Parties (PLP) to initiate independent cleanups through the Voluntary Cleanup Program's expedited process. The department may charge fees, cost recovery, or both to recoup the costs of providing this service.
23W - Paint Product Stewardship Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	RCW 70A.515.060 authorizes the department to collect fees from a paint stewardship organization. The total amount of fees collected must not exceed the amount necessary to reimburse costs incurred by the department to enforce and administer this chapter. The fee must be paid annually, and may not exceed five percent of the aggregate assessment added to the cost of all architectural paint sold by producers in the state for the preceding calendar year.
25Q - Clean Fuels Program Account	02	99	Clean Fuels Fee (000815)	RCW 70A.535.130 authorizes Ecology to require a fee from persons that register or report under the provisions of the Clean Fuels Program. The fee is set so that receipts equal but not exceed the payment schedule and fee amount. All receipts from fees and penalties received under the program are deposited into this account. Expenditures from this account may only be used for carrying out the Clean Fuels Program, which aims to reduce carbon intensity of transportation fuels through use of credits generated and used in a credit market by covered entities; and to produce a fuel supply forecast.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
25Q - Clean Fuels Program Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	RCW 70A.535.130 authorizes Ecology to require a fee from persons that register or report under the provisions of the Clean Fuels Program. The fee is set so that receipts equal but not exceed the payment schedule and fee amount. All receipts from fees and penalties received under the program are deposited into this account. Expenditures from this account may only be used for carrying out the Clean Fuels Program, which aims to reduce carbon intensity of transportation fuels through use of credits generated and used in a credit market by covered entities; and to produce a fuel supply forecast.
25R - Recycled Content Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Chapter 70A.245 RCW authorizes Ecology to collect fees from producers of certain products. The total amount of fees collected must not exceed the amount necessary to reimburse costs incurred by the department to enforce and administer specified sections of this chapter. Methods to equitably distribute the fee among producers will be established in rule; until then, a general order will accompany fee invoices describing the basis for the fee calculation; the fee will be calculated based on each producer's percentage weight of plastic resin sold or distributed for sale in Washington.
25S - Recycling Enhancement Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	RCW 70A.245.040 requires penalties as calculated using the methods described in this section be applied for failure to meet post-consumer recycled content requirements in RCW 70A.245.020. RCW 70A.245.050 authorizes penalties for violation of registration, reporting, and labeling requirements in the specified sections of Chapter 70A.245 RCW. Revenue from penalties required and authorized in RCW 70A.245.040 and RCW 70A.245.050 are to be deposited in the Recycling Enhancement Account. No revenue is estimated for this source because this is a new chapter in statute, enforcement actions begin with corrective measures, and penalties are uncommon and unpredictable.
25T - Refrigerant Emission Management Account	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	RCW 70A.60.030 authorizes Ecology to determine, assess, and collect annual fees from the owners or operators of refrigeration and air conditioning systems regulated under the Refrigerant Management Program in an amount sufficient to cover the direct and indirect costs of administering and enforcing the provisions.
26A - Carbon Emissions Reduction Account	04	60	CCA Auction Revenue	Auction revenue received from the Climate Commitment Act cap-and-invest program for the purpose of funding carbon emissions reduction in the Transportation sector. Auction proceeds are collected by the financial services administrator and transferred to the State Treasurer for deposit. Ecology's revenue estimate for CERA reflects the statutory requirement that auction proceeds will be first deposited into CERA to meet the amounts specified under RCW 70A.65.100. Remaining auction proceeds will be deposited in the CIA and AQHDIA. Note that the State Treasurer will transfer 24 percent of the revenues in CERA to the Climate Active Transportation Account (26M) per RCW 46.68.490, and 56 percent to the Climate Transit Programs Account (26N) per RCW 46.68.500. State Treasurer transfers are not reflected in Ecology revenue estimates. Effective 07/01/2027, revenue distribution will change as specified in RCW 70A.65.100.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
26B - Climate Investment Account	04	60	CCA Auction Revenue	Auction revenue received from the Climate Commitment Act cap-and-invest program for the purpose of funding the costs to administer the program and funding projects that support the transition to clean energy, build ecosystem resilience, and support carbon sequestration. Auction proceeds are collected by the financial services administrator and transferred to the State Treasurer for deposit. Ecology's revenue estimate for the CIA reflects the agency's current estimate of auction proceeds from the June 2024 forecast minus the statutory amount deposited in CERA and $20 million per biennium deposited in AQHDIA. Note that annually each July, the State Treasurer transfers revenues available in the CIA that are not already appropriated in the account to administer the program. Per RCW 70A.65.250, 75 percent is transferred to the Climate Commitment Account (26C) and 25 percent is transferred to the Natural Climate Solutions Account (26D). State Treasurer transfers are not reflected in Ecology revenue estimates. Effective 07/01/2027, this account will be repealed and revenue distribution will change as specified in RCW 70A.65.100.
26E - Air Quality and Health Disparities Improvement	04	60	CCA Auction Revenue	Auction revenue received from the Climate Commitment Act cap-and-invest program for the purpose of funding reductions in criteria pollutants and health disparities in overburdened communities. Auction proceeds are to be collected by the financial services administrator and transferred to the State Treasurer for deposit. Under RCW 70A.65.100, auction revenue is directed to the CIA and AQHDIA after first being deposited in CERA. Ecology's revenue estimate reflects the funding intent specified in RCW 70A.65.280 that not less than $20 million per biennium be dedicated to the account. Effective 07/01/2027, this account will be repealed and revenue distribution will change as specified in RCW 70A.65.100.
27P - Price Ceiling Unit Emission Reduction Investment	04	99	Other Revenue	All receipts from the sale of price ceiling units must be deposited in the account. Moneys in the account must be expended to achieve emissions reductions on at least a metric ton for metric ton basis that are real, permanent, quantifiable, verifiable, enforceable by the state, and in addition to any greenhouse gas emission reduction otherwise required by law or regulation and any other greenhouse gas emission reduction that otherwise would occur. Ecology estimates zero revenue in this account for the 2025-27 biennium.
277 - State Agency Parking Account	04	02	Income From Property	The department is authorized to assess employee parking fees which are deposited into this account to pay for commute trip reduction incentives per RCW 43.01.240.
28C - Responsible Battery Management	02	99	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Chapter 70A.555 RCW authorizes the department to collect annual fees for the purposes of covering the costs associated with the implementation of the battery stewardship program as established under E2SSB 5144 (2023). Ecology estimates fee collections will begin in FY 2027.
28U - Clean Fuels Credit Account	04	99	Other Revenue	Chapter 70A.535 RCW authorizes revenue from the sale of clean fuel credits by a state agency to be deposited in the Clean Fuels Credit Account. If Ecology were to choose to sell credits, any revenue received would be deposited in the account.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
296 - Columbia River Basin Water Supply Rev Recovery Account	02	85	Water Resources Fees	Columbia Basin Water Supply Permit Recovery (KGHOSP, LAKROS, SULLAK, WWALLA): Chapter 90.90.100 RCW authorizes the Columbia River Basin Water Supply Revenue Recovery Account. Revenue to this account includes all receipts from direct appropriations from the legislature, moneys directed to the account pursuant to RCW 90.90.020 (Allocation and Development of Water Supplies) and 90.90.030 (Voluntary Regional Agreements), revenue from water service contracts described in this chapter, or moneys directed into the account from any other sources. Revenue from 90.90.020 and 90.90.030 RCW are collected from entities paying fees from receiving water developed from the Columbia River Program through permitting or contracting of the newly developed water.
30C - Responsible Recycling Management	04	60	CCA Auction Revenue	Chapter 70A.208 RCW authorizes the department to collect one time payment and annual registration fees thereafter for the purposes of covering the costs associated with the implementation of the recycling stewardship program as established under E2SSB 5284 (2025). Ecology estimates fee collection will begin in FY 2027.
30P - Climate Commitment Act Operating	04	60	CCA Auction Revenue	Effective 07/01/2027, this account will be activated and collect revenue as specified in RCW 70A.65.100. Auction revenue is received from the Climate Commitment Act cap-and-invest program for the purpose of funding the costs to administer the program and funding projects that support the transition to clean energy, build ecosystem resilience, and support carbon sequestration. Auction proceeds are collected by the financial services administrator and transferred to the State Treasurer for deposit.
30Q - Climate Commitment Act Capital	04	60	Other Licenses, Permits, and Fees	Effective 07/01/2027, this account will be activated and collect revenue as specified in RCW 70A.65.100. Auction revenue is received from the Climate Commitment Act cap-and-invest program for the purpose of funding capital projects that support the transition to clean energy, build ecosystem resilience, and support carbon sequestration. Auction proceeds are collected by the financial services administrator and transferred to the State Treasurer for deposit.
408 - Coastal Protection Account	04	05	Fines, Forfeits and Seizures	Spills and Water Quality Penalties (000044, 000046): Chapter 90.48 RCW authorizes the department to recover costs relating to the unlawful discharge of oil into waters of the state, as well as providing for penalties. Revenue estimates are derived from historical data.

Account	Major Source	Source	Source Name	Revenue Description
408 - Coastal Protection Account	04	99	Other Revenue	Resource Damage Assessments (RDAC00, RDAN00, RDAS00): Chapter 90.48 and 90.56 RCW authorize charging a fee for resource damage assessment. Revenue estimates are derived from historical data.
500 - Perpetual Surveillance Account	04	27	Property and Resources Management	Perpetual Surveillance and Maintenance Surcharge (000023): The department shall impose and collect fees from parties disposing of radioactive wastes for waste management purposes. The department collects a charge per cubic foot of waste received by US Ecology (a private corporation). Revenue estimates are based on a projection of the annual volume of waste to be disposed at the facility.
564 - Water Pollution Control Revolving Administration Account	04	20	Charge for Services	Chapter 90.50A RCW authorizes an administrative charge as a portion of the debt service for loans issued under the Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Program. A maximum of 1% of the outstanding loan balances are collected when loan payments are made for each loan in repayment. The administrative charge is deposited into fund 564. Funds can be used for conducting application processes, managing loan agreements, collecting loan payments, managing funds, providing technical assistance, and meeting state and federal reporting requirements as well as information and data system costs associated with loan tracking and fund management.
727 - Water Pollution Control Revolving Account	03	66	Environmental Protection Agency	The department receives funds from the Environmental Protection Agency to provide capitalization grants. EPA policies allow disbursement of grant funds on a cost-reimbursement basis.
727 - Water Pollution Control Revolving Account	04	09	Local Investment Interest	The department is authorized to loan/grant funds from the Water Pollution Control Revolving Account. Revenue estimates are derived from outstanding loan/grant interest payments due during the biennium.
727 - Water Pollution Control Revolving Account	08	66	Loan Principal Repayment	The department is authorized to loan/grant funds from the Water Pollution Control Revolving Account. Revenue estimates are derived from loan repayments due during the biennium.
746 - Hanford Area Economic Investment Account	02	94	Hazardous Waste Fees	Radioactive Waste Surcharge (000023): The department deposits a surcharge into the Hanford Area Economic Investment Account per cubic foot of low level radioactive waste disposed at Hanford. Revenue estimates are based on the amount of cubic feet being received annually. A surcharge of $6.50 is collected for each cubic foot of radioactive waste received at the disposal facility. Benton County receives $2.00 for each cubic foot of waste and the remaining $4.50 is deposited into the Hanford Area Economic Investment Account. Revenue estimates are based on a projection of the annual volume of waste to be disposed at the facility.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

State of Washington
Request for Fees or Taxes
2027-29 Biennium

	Code	Title
AGENCY	461	Department of Ecology

							Incremental Revenue						
							GF-S		Other Funds				
Agy #	Agency Name	Fee Code	Name of Fee or Tax	Is a bill required?	Z-Draft # (or Pending)	New, Increased, Continued?	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2028	FY 2029	Tied to Expenditure Change?	Fee Payer Position	Explanation of Change
461	Dept. of Ecology	J001	Underground Storage Tank Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			142	290	No. See PL RA	Neutral - TCP works with stakeholders and informs them of changes per the statute in one on one meetings and at conferences prior to publishing plans to increase.	RCW 70A.355.080 gives Ecology authority to increase the tank fee according by the fiscal growth factor each year with a 15 month notification process. Estimated revenue is based on applying the fiscal growth factor to the current tank fee for FY 2028 and FY 2029 in order to collect the revenue needed to recover the costs of administering the underground storage tank program next biennium.
461	Dept. of Ecology	N001	Biosolids Permit Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			93	189	No. See PL RA	Fee payers are aware of the annual adjustment. Larger stakeholders are supportive.	RCW 70A.226.030 requires the biosolids program to be fully fee supported and allow for the fee schedule to be adjusted once every two years. Ecology is requesting an increase to the biosolids fee by the fiscal growth factor FY 2028 and FY 2029. This fee increase is required to support the ongoing implementation of the biosolids permit program, including general permit, technical assistance, and stakeholder outreach and education.
461	Dept. of Ecology	F004	Wastewater Discharge Permit Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			4,000	8,000	No. See PL RA	Neutral - WQP traditionally increases fees every two years to maintain pace with inflation. We work with stakeholders and other interested parties and inform them of changes through the rulemaking process that includes public hearings and a public comment period.	Estimated revenue is based on applying the fiscal growth factor to fees for underpaying fee categories for FY 2028 and FY 2029 in order to collect the revenue needed to recover the costs of administering the wastewater and stormwater programs next biennium.
461	Dept. of Ecology	B008	New Source Review Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			79	79	No. See PL RA	Neutral - fees are adjusted under Chapter 173-455 WAC to reflect program costs via a workload model.	Consistent with other Air Quality Fees, Ecology has statutory authority to collect fees sufficient to cover the costs to administer the program. The increase in fees will cover the costs to administer notifications of proposed new sources of contaminants. The New Source Review schedule under rule in Chapter 173-455 WAC will reflect the actual program costs using a workload model and standard agency costs for staff time.
461	Dept. of Ecology	D001	Lab Accreditation Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			146	329	No. See PL RA	Neutral - WAC 173-50-190 establishes a fee schedule for Laboratory Accreditation fees and prescribes annual increases based on the Fiscal Growth Factor (FGF).	Annual fee increases based on changes to the FGF are required by rule.

							Incremental Revenue						
							GF-S		Other Funds				
Agy #	Agency Name	Fee Code	Name of Fee or Tax	Is a bill required?	Z-Draft # (or Pending)	New, Increased, Continued?	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2028	FY 2029	Tied to Expenditure Change?	Fee Payer Position	Explanation of Change
461	Dept. of Ecology	C001	Refrigerant Management Program Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			1,591	1,591	No. See PL RA	Neutral - The public comment period for this fee increase concluded on September of 2026 and Ecology received no substantive opposition to the fee increase.	The proposal to increase the MTC02 fee from $0.15 in fiscal year 2026 to $0.45 in fiscal year 2027 is an adjustment designed to support the long-term financial stability of the REMA. This increase would stabilize the program's revenue base and improves future cash projections, ensuring the REMA can continue meeting regulatory obligations and service demands. A key driver for this adjustment is the anticipated growth in registration volume as new entities are registered. The additional revenue created by the fee increase will provide the financial capacity needed to support the operational needs for managing expanded workload. In addition to meeting immediate operational needs, the increased fee will enhance durability within the fee structure and contribute to the program's working capital reserve. Building this reserve is critical for managing revenue fluctuations, sustaining core operations, and maintaining program resilience over time.
461	Dept. of Ecology	H004	Well Construction & Inspection Fee	Yes	Z-0087.2	Increased			736	736	Yes. See PL DD	Through collaboration with the Well Construction Technical Advisory Group, Ecology has identified improvements to clarify existing statute and reduce the regulatory burden on the well drilling industry. TAG supports the efficiency and technical changes of the agency request legislation that will reduce regulatory burdens on the well drilling community. TAG did not express opposition to the proposed fee increases and accepted the scope of the increases, with some individuals supportive and some not. However, some members expressed concerns around proposed rulemaking authority for Ecology to update fees in the future without statutory amendment.	Currently, fees charged for well drilling administrative oversight do not cover the cost of providing the services. Fee increases will eliminate the need to subsidize the activity with state general funds. Additionally, fees charged for water-well construction cover a disproportionate amount of well drilling oversight activities. Increasing fees on other types of regulated activities, such as resource protection wells, will create a more equitable funding structure. Increasing fee revenue overall will also reduce dependence on the state general fund and create more funding stability.

							Incremental Revenue						
							GF-S		Other Funds				
Agy #	Agency Name	Fee Code	Name of Fee or Tax	Is a bill required?	Z-Draft # (or Pending)	New, Increased, Continued?	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2028	FY 2029	Tied to Expenditure Change?	Fee Payer Position	Explanation of Change
461	Dept. of Ecology	M001	Hazardous Waste Generation Fee	Yes	Z-0091.1	Increased			543	561	Yes. See PL DC	Mixed - fee payers have been made aware of the proposed increase. We often received no response, others advised that their position would depend on the final fee structure recommended by the advisory group and adopted in rule.	Currently, Ecology charges two fees to Washington businesses that generate dangerous waste. All dangerous waste generators pay a small annual fee ($69 for 2026). Additionally, businesses that generate more than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste per year or report certain toxic releases pay a P2 fee that is based on how much dangerous waste they create each year. For 2026, the maximum revenue that can be collected for the P2 fee is $2,767,400, with a maximum fee of $27,674 for an individual facility. The annual revenue generated by these fees is approximately $1.5 million lower than our expenditure authority for the HWAA, creating an ongoing structural deficit in this account. Although we have been using federal grants and MTCA Operating to supplement this work, the fund balance in the HWAA continues to decline. An immediate increase in both fees is needed to avoid entering a negative fund balance before a more sustainable and equitable fee structure is identified and implemented through rulemaking.
461	Dept. of Ecology	M002	Hazardous Waste Planning Fee	Yes	Z-0091.1	Increased			145	147	Yes. See PL DC	Mixed - fee payers have been made aware of the proposed increase. We often received no response, others advised that their position would depend on the final fee structure recommended by the advisory group and adopted in rule.	Currently, Ecology charges two fees to Washington businesses that generate dangerous waste. All dangerous waste generators pay a small annual fee ($69 for 2026). Additionally, businesses that generate more than 2,640 pounds of dangerous waste per year or report certain toxic releases pay a P2 fee that is based on how much dangerous waste they create each year. For 2026, the maximum revenue that can be collected for the P2 fee is $2,767,400, with a maximum fee of $27,674 for an individual facility. The annual revenue generated by these fees is approximately $1.5 million lower than our expenditure authority for the HWAA, creating an ongoing structural deficit in this account. Although we have been using federal grants and MTCA Operating to supplement this work, the fund balance in the HWAA continues to decline. An immediate increase in both fees is needed to avoid entering a negative fund balance before a more sustainable and equitable fee structure is identified and implemented through rulemaking.

							Incremental Revenue						
							GF-S		Other Funds				
Agy #	Agency Name	Fee Code	Name of Fee or Tax	Is a bill required?	Z-Draft # (or Pending)	New, Increased, Continued?	FY 2028	FY 2029	FY 2028	FY 2029	Tied to Expenditure Change?	Fee Payer Position	Explanation of Change
461	Dept. of Ecology	B013	Landfill Methane Emission Fees	No	No Legislation	Increased			200	200	Yes. See PL DA	Counties that operate MSW landfills will be impacted when Ecology charges fees to cover the costs of implementing the Landfill Methane Program. The Washington Association of Counties was in support of Ecology's agency request legislation in 2026 because it helped ensure that fees paid by counties will be used as intended and will go directly to implement the program.	RCW 70A.540.130 authorizes Ecology to collect fees yearly to administer the Landfill Methane Program for Washington State Landfills. The current workload model shows an additional $400,950 will be needed in the 2027-29 biennium for the program to be fully supported.
461	Dept. of Ecology	K003	Mixed Waste Management Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			989	989	Yes. See ML FC	This request has been presented to USDOE who will pay for this increase. USDOE did not oppose this increase.	The Mixed Waste Fee is driven by workload analysis and level of effort required to carry out the responsibilities of the Nuclear Waste Program. Increased workload drives an equal offset of expenditures and revenue through increased billings to permitted entities.
461	Dept. of Ecology	H001	Dam Safety Inspection Fee	No	No Legislation	Increased			350	350	Yes. See ML FF	Unknown - Stakeholder outreach will occur upon filing of the CR-101 for rulemaking, which is expected to occur in October of 2026.	Fees would be increased so that revenue received from inspections covers all costs associated with inspections, consistent with statutory direction. The fees have not been increased since 2012.
Additional Comments													

Dollars in Thousands

ABS030 Working Capital Reserve
461 Department of Ecology
2027-29 Regular Budget Session
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial

FUND ADMINISTRATOR AGENCY ONLY		RECOMMENDED ENDING FUND BALANCE	
FUND	**FUND TITLE**	**2025-27 Current Biennium**	**2027-29 Ensuing Biennium**
027	Reclamation Account	100	100
032	St Emergency Water Projects Revolv	3	3
044	Waste Reduct/Recycle/Litter Control	3,000	3,000
10G	Water Rights Tracking System Acct	5	5
11J	Electronic Products Recycling Acct	75	75
160	Wood Stove Education/Enforcement	40	40
176	Water Quality Permit Account	4,300	4,300
199	Biosolids Permit Account	256	256
207	Hazardous Waste Assistance Account	700	830
20R	Radioactive Mixed Waste Acct	2,200	2,200
216	Air Pollution Control Account	450	450
217	Oil Spill Prevention Account	800	800
219	Air Operating Permit Account	2,000	2,102

ABS030 Working Capital Reserve
461 Department of Ecology
BI - Biennial 2027-29 Initial

Dollars in Thousands

FUND ADMINISTRATOR AGENCY ONLY		RECOMMENDED ENDING FUND BALANCE	
FUND	**FUND TITLE**	**2025-27 Current Biennium**	**2027-29 Ensuing Biennium**
21H	Wastewater Treatmt Plant Oper Cert	105	105
25Q	Clean Fuels Program Account	500	500
25T	RefrigerantEmissionManagementAcct	250	250
30J	Laboratory Accreditation Account	525	700
564	Water Pollution Control Revol Admin	150	150
727	Water Pollution Control Revolving	2,000	2,000

2027-29 Biennium Requested Fund Transfers

Department of Ecology

September 2026

Purpose: This table summarizes Treasurer fund transfers identified by Ecology for inclusion in the 2027-29 Biennium Budget. Includes items 5 and 6 that are appropriations or other transactions made to achieve a transfer or repayment of funds.

Item	Budget Reference	Account From	Account To	FY 2028	FY 2029	Biennium Total	Explanation & Statutory Citation
1	Capital Project 40000770	State Taxable Building Construction Account (355)	Water Pollution Control State Revolving Account – Federal (727)	$6 million	$6 million	$12 million	The Washington State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund (SRF), established under Chapter 90.50A RCW, implements the state's loan program to provide low- interest loans to public entities for high priority water quality projects statewide. Twenty percent state match toward federal capitalization dollars is required. The state provides the matching funds when federal dollars are actually spent. The $12 million requested match for the 2025-27 biennium is based on an estimated $12 million match for anticipated CWSRF federal capitalization (20 percent match for both).
2	Operating	Water Pollution Control Revolving Administrative Account (564)	Water Pollution Control Revolving Program (727)	$1.5 million	$1.5 million	$3 million	The Administrative Rate is calculated at up to 1% of the declining principal loan balances in the Water Pollution Control Revolving Account. Per RCW 90.50A.090. Request transfer of $3 million back to 727 to maintain a projected balance of $3.5 million in the Administrative Account.
3	Operating	State General Fund (001)	Flood Control Assistance Account - FCAA (02P)	$2 million	$2 million	$4 million	According to RCW 86.26.007, the state treasurer is required to transfer $4 million from the General Fund to the Flood Control Assistance Account each biennium.

Item	Budget Reference	Account From	Account To	FY 2028	FY 2029	Biennium Total	Explanation & Statutory Citation
4		State General Fund (001)	Site Closure Account (125)	$1.430 million	$1.457 million	$2.887 million	In the 2003-05 Biennium, the Legislature transferred $13.8 million from the Site Closure Account to the general fund. Beginning July 1, 2008, and each July 1st thereafter, the treasurer shall transfer from the state general fund to the site closure account the sum of nine hundred sixty-six thousand dollars. The nine hundred sixty-six thousand dollars transferred on July 1, 2009, and thereafter shall be adjusted to a level equal to the percentage increase in the United States implicit prce deflator for personal consumption. The last transfer under shall occur on July 1, 2033.The amount shown is based on an assumed 1.9% increase from July 1, 2026 transfer of $1,403,372. (RCW 43.200.080 3(a), (b))
5		Columbia River Water Delivery Account (15K)	Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation				RCW 90.90.060 outlines provisions whereby the state and the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation and the Spokane Tribe of Indians agree to support additional releases of water from Lake Roosevelt. The state also agrees to share a portion of the benefits derived from Lake Roosevelt water releases, and to mitigate for any impacts such releases may have upon the tribes. Enacted budgets include the benefit in the back of the budget section titled State Revenues For Distribution. The Columbia River Water Delivery Account (Account 15K) is administered by Ecology, but is an administrative account of the State General Fund. Amounts are defined per RCW 90.90.070.

Item	Budget Reference	Account From	Account To	FY 2028	FY 2029	Biennium Total	Explanation & Statutory Citation
6		Columbia River Water Delivery Account (15K)	Spokane Tribe of Indians				See note above.
7	Capital Project 40000776	Climate Commitment Act Capital Account (30Q)	Air Quality & Health Disparities Improvement Account (26E)	$7,000,000	$7,000,000	$14,000,000	To support the referenced budget request and ensure the AQHDIA maintains a positive cash and fund balance throughout the 2027-29 biennium, Ecology is requesting that $14 million be transferred from the CCA Capital Account into the AQHDIA.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Department of Ecology
2027-29 Operating Budget Requests Supporting the Puget Sound Action Agenda

September 9, 2026

Decision Package	Strategies & Actions	Local Integrated Organizations (LIO)	Salmon Addendum	Commitments	Targets	Biennial Science Workplan Action	Federal Leveraging	Local Leveraging	Puget Sound Dollars	Total Request Dollars
1. PL DC Modernizing Hazardous Waste Fees	• Toxic Chemical Prevention 01.03 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.02 and 03.03 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 05.02 and 05.06 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 06.02 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 08.01			• ECY-013 • ECY-032					$ 477,000	$ 677,000
2. PL DA Landfill Methane Fees Expenditure Authority	Human Health 03.02								$ 340,000	$ 400,000
3. PL DB Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Program	• Smart Growth 05.03 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.04 and 03.05 • Stormwater Runoff 15.01 through 15.04								$ 292,000	$ 442,000
4. ML FA Public Participation Grants	• Research and Monitoring B.03 and B.05 • Good Governance C.01 • Strategic Leadership and collaboration D.02 • Outreach and Behavior Change F.01 and F.02 • Human Health 02.02 and 02.04 • Toxic Chemical Prevention 03.02 through 03.05, 03.07, and 03.08 • Shared Landscapes 04.04 and 04.05					• SECONDARY: C) • SECONDARY: F)			$ 356,000	$ 462,000
5. ML FB Zero Emission School Bus Program	• Human Health 03.02 • Human Health 03.03 • Human Health 03.04								$ 27,200,000	$ 32,000,000
Total Operating Request in Support of the Puget Sound Action Agenda									**$ 28,665,000**	

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Code	Title
461	Department of Ecology

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
		Agency Total			
		FY 2026	**142,735,015**	**36,841,710**	
		FY 2027	**140,279,082**	**28,197,360**	
		FY 2028	**109,627,270**	**22,017,321**	
		FY 2029	**76,871,973**	**22,069,527**	
		FY 2030	**64,368,790**	**16,944,527**	
		FY 2029	**64,082,504**	**17,069,527**	
A036	**11.419**	**Atmospheric Administration** **Coastal Zone Management Sections 306, 309, 310**			
		FY 2026	3,100,000	2,622,000	23P
		FY 2027	3,189,000	2,622,000	23P
		FY 2028	3,189,000	2,622,000	23P
		FY 2029	3,189,000	2,622,000	23P
		FY 2030	3,189,000	2,622,000	23P
		FY 2031	3,189,000	2,622,000	23P
A042	**11.420**	**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** **Coastal Zone Management Section 315**			
		FY 2026	880,967	377,558	23P
		FY 2027	931,000	399,000	23P
		FY 2028	931,000	399,000	23P
		FY 2029	931,000	399,000	23P
		FY 2030	931,000	399,000	23P
		FY 2031	931,000	399,000	23P
A056	**15.243**	**U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management** **Washington Conservation Corps/BLM**			
		FY 2026	-	-	23P
		FY 2027	148,527	49,509	23P
		FY 2028	150,000	50,000	23P
		FY 2029	150,000	50,000	23P
		FY 2030	150,000	50,000	23P
		FY 2031	150,000	50,000	23P

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A056	**15.676**	**U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Nisqually Wildlife Refuge**			
		FY 2026	157,054	52,352	23P
		FY 2027	199,519	66,508	23P
		FY 2028	200,000	66,667	23P
		FY 2029	200,000	66,667	23P
		FY 2030	200,000	66,667	23P
		FY 2031	200,000	66,667	23P
A038	**15.614**	**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** **National Coastal Wetland Conservation (Capital)**			
		FY 2026	4,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	4,132,838	-	n/a
		FY 2028	5,750,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	5,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	5,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	5,000,000	-	n/a
A036	**15.808**	**U.S. Geological Survey** **Studies of Morphology and Habitat**			
		FY 2026	90,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	65,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	80,000	-	n/a
A056	**15.931**	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/North Cascades**			
		FY 2026	67,920	22,640	23P
		FY 2027	189,750	63,250	23P
		FY 2028	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2029	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2030	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2031	80,000	26,667	23P

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A056	**15.931**	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Olympic National Park**			
		FY 2026	274,872	91,624	23P
		FY 2027	364,940	121,647	23P
		FY 2028	250,000	83,333	23P
		FY 2029	250,000	83,333	23P
		FY 2030	250,000	83,333	23P
		FY 2031	250,000	83,333	23P
A056	**15.931**	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Mount Rainier National Park**			
		FY 2026	-	-	23P
		FY 2027	123,840	41,280	23P
		FY 2028	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2029	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2030	80,000	26,667	23P
		FY 2031	80,000	26,667	23P
A025	**66.034**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Surveys, Studies, Investigations & Special Purpose Rel to Clean Air Act / NATTs**			
		FY 2026	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	80,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	80,000	-	n/a
A025	**66.034**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Surveys, Studies, Investigations & Special Purpose Rel to Clean Air Act / PM 2.5**			
		FY 2026	673,209	-	n/a
		FY 2027	673,209	-	n/a
		FY 2028	673,209	-	n/a
		FY 2029	673,209	-	n/a
		FY 2030	673,209	-	n/a
		FY 2031	673,209	-	n/a

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A051	**66.040**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance / DERA**			
		FY 2026	1,660,119	336,463	23N
		FY 2027	1,660,119	336,463	23N
		FY 2028	1,660,119	338,680	23N
		FY 2029	1,660,119	338,680	23N
		FY 2030	1,660,119	338,680	23N
		FY 2031	1,660,119	338,680	23N
A008	**66.123**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Puget Sound Action Agenda: Technical Investigations and Implementation Assistanc**			
		FY 2026	5,000,000	5,000,000	057, 727
		FY 2027	5,000,000	5,000,000	057, 727
		FY 2028	5,000,000	5,000,000	057, 727
		FY 2029	5,000,000	5,000,000	057, 727
		FY 2030			
		FY 2031			
A027	**66.419**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Monitoring Strategies Grant**			
		FY 2026	169,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	337,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	169,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	169,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	169,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	169,000	-	n/a
A027	**66.419**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **BEACH Program**			
		FY 2026	271,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	277,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	277,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	277,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	277,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	277,000	-	n/a

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A006	**66.454**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Water Quality Management & Planning CWA 604(b)**			
		FY 2026	551,564	-	n/a
		FY 2027	551,564	-	n/a
		FY 2028	400,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	400,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	400,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	400,000	-	n/a
A006, A049, A043, A027	**66.460**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants 319 (h)**			
		FY 2026	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
		FY 2027	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
		FY 2028	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
		FY 2029	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
		FY 2030	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
		FY 2031	3,233,000	2,155,000	23P, 23R, 057
A038	**66.461**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Regional Wetland Development grants**			
		FY 2026	-	-	23P
		FY 2027	-	-	23P
		FY 2028	-	-	23P
		FY 2029	375,000	125,000	23P
		FY 2030	-	-	23P
		FY 2031	375,000	125,000	23P
A043	**66.458**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Water Pollution Control**			
		FY 2026	77,826,000	14,825,600	355
		FY 2027	65,098,953	12,282,000	355
		FY 2028	30,000,000	6,000,000	355
		FY 2029	30,000,000	6,000,000	355
		FY 2030	30,000,000	6,000,000	355
		FY 2031	30,000,000	6,000,000	355

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A043	66.447	**Environmental Protection Agency**			
		Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant			
		FY 2026	764,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	945,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028			
		FY 2029			
		FY 2030			
		FY 2031			
A007, A027, A034, A037, A043, A049	66.605	**Environmental Protection Agency**			
		Performance Partnership Grant			
		FY 2026	5,443,757	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
		FY 2027	5,446,004	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
		FY 2028	5,449,757	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
		FY 2029	5,453,623	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
		FY 2030	5,457,605	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
		FY 2031	5,461,706	2,576,090	001, 23P, 23N, 160, 216
A052, A065	66.708	**Environmental Protection Agency**			
		Pollution Prevention Grants Program - P2 Grant			
		FY 2026	206,256	206,256	23P
		FY 2027	109,190	109,190	23P
		FY 2028	297,794	297,794	23P
		FY 2029	225,000	225,000	23P
		FY 2030	225,000	225,000	23P
		FY 2031	225,000	225,000	23P
A019, A021, A031	66.801	**Environmental Protection Agency**			
		Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support			
		FY 2026	945,061	315,020	23P
		FY 2027	1,678,510	559,503	23P
		FY 2028	1,678,510	559,503	23P
		FY 2029	1,678,510	559,503	23P
		FY 2030	1,678,510	559,503	23P
		FY 2031	1,678,510	559,503	23P

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A005	**66.802**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Superfund State, Political Subdivision & Indian Tribe Site Specific Coop Agreement**			
		FY 2026	462,036	-	n/a
		FY 2027	462,036	-	n/a
		FY 2028	462,036	-	n/a
		FY 2029	462,036	-	n/a
		FY 2030	462,036	-	n/a
		FY 2031	462,036	-	n/a
A023	**66.804**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **State & Tribal Underground Storage Tank Program (LUST Prevention & STAG)**			
		FY 2026	485,077	121,269	23P
		FY 2027	485,077	121,269	23P
		FY 2028	485,077	121,269	23P
		FY 2029	485,077	121,269	23P
		FY 2030	485,077	121,269	23P
		FY 2031	485,077	121,269	23P
A005	**66.805**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund Program (LUST)**			
		FY 2026	486,940	54,104	23P
		FY 2027	486,940	54,104	23P
		FY 2028	486,940	54,104	23P
		FY 2029	486,940	54,104	23P
		FY 2030	486,940	54,104	23P
		FY 2031	486,940	54,104	23P
A005	**66.809**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Superfund State and Indian Tribe Core Program Cooperative Agreements (CORE)**			
		FY 2026	126,000	14,000	23P
		FY 2027	126,000	14,000	23P
		FY 2028	126,000	14,000	23P
		FY 2029	126,000	14,000	23P
		FY 2030	126,000	14,000	23P
		FY 2031	126,000	14,000	23P

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A005	**66.817**	**Environmental Protection Agency** **State & Tribal Response Program Grants (STRP)**			
		FY 2026	1,566,065	-	n/a
		FY 2027	1,566,065	-	n/a
		FY 2028	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	1,000,000	-	n/a
A014	**81.104**	**US Department of Energy** **Oversight of CERCLA practices at the Hanford Site**			
		FY 2026	3,684,956	-	n/a
		FY 2027	3,795,505	-	n/a
		FY 2028	3,909,370	-	n/a
		FY 2029	4,026,651	-	n/a
		FY 2030	3,908,747	-	n/a
		FY 2031	4,026,010	-	n/a
A040	**97.023**	**Federal Emergency Management Agency** **National Flood Insurance Program - Community Assistance Program**			
		FY 2026	293,289	73,322	02P
		FY 2027	300,000	75,000	02P
		FY 2028	300,000	75,000	02P
		FY 2029	300,000	75,000	02P
		FY 2030	300,000	75,000	02P
		FY 2031	300,000	75,000	02P
A011	**97.041**	**Federal Emergency Management Agency** **National Dam Safety**			
		FY 2026	101,000	101,000	001
		FY 2027	101,000	101,000	001
		FY 2028	101,000	101,000	001
		FY 2029	101,000	101,000	001
		FY 2030	101,000	101,000	001
		FY 2031	101,000	101,000	001

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A040	**97.045**	**Federal Emergency Management Agency Cooperating Technical Partners**			
		FY 2026	-	-	n/a
		FY 2027	235,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	235,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	235,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	235,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	235,000	-	n/a
A042	**11.463**	**National Oceanic and NWS Marine Conservation Initiative**			
		FY 2026	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2030	1,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2031	1,000,000	-	n/a
A038	**66.419**	**Environmental Protection Agency National Wetland Condition Assessment**			
		FY 2026	217,350	-	n/a
		FY 2027	-	-	n/a
		FY 2028	-	-	n/a
		FY 2029	-	-	n/a
		FY 2030	-	-	n/a
		FY 2031	217,350	-	n/a

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
BIL/IRA Funding					
A038	**66.123**	**Environmental Protection Agency Puget Sound Climate Riparian System Lead**			
		FY 2026	5,250,000	6,000,000	727-1
		FY 2027	6,229,345	-	na
		FY 2028	1,611,709	-	na
		FY 2029	7,014,261	-	na
		FY 2030	-	-	n/a
		FY 2031	-	-	n/a
A006	**66.962**	**Environmental Protection Agency Columbia River Basin Toxic Reduction Lead**			
		FY 2026	3,175,315	446,865	na
		FY 2027			
		FY 2028			
		FY 2029			
		FY 2030			
		FY 2031			
A006	**66.454**	**Environmental Protection Agency CWA (604) Water Quality Mgmt Planning Grants**			
		FY 2026	282,604		n/a
		FY 2027	282,604		n/a
		FY 2028	-		
		FY 2029	-		
		FY 2030	-		
		FY 2031	-		
A034	**66.034**	**Environmental Protection Agency Clean Air Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act**			
		FY 2026	1,450,547	1,450,547	1
		FY 2027	1,450,547	1,450,547	1
		FY 2028	1,450,547	1,450,547	1
		FY 2029	1,450,547	1,450,547	1
		FY 2030	1,450,547	1,450,547	1
		FY 2031	1,450,547	1,450,547	1

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates

Activity	CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(B) State Fiscal Year	State Match Amounts	State Match Source Account Code
A005	**66.817**	**Environmental Protection Agency State & Tribal Response Program Grants (STRP) IIJA**			
		FY 2026	-	-	
		FY 2027	-	-	
		FY 2028	566,065	-	
		FY 2029	-	-	
		FY 2030	-	-	
		FY 2031	-	-	
A005	**66.818**	**Environmental Protection Agency Community-Wide Assesment Grant for States and Tribes Cooperative Agreement**			
		FY 2026	2,000,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	1,000,000	-	
		FY 2028	1,000,000	-	
		FY 2029	1,000,000	-	
		FY 2030	1,000,000	-	
		FY 2031		-	
A038	**66.123**	**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Resilience Partners**			
		FY 2026	10,960,057	-	n/a
		FY 2027	25,425,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	34,365,137	-	n/a
		FY 2029	-	-	n/a
		FY 2030	-	-	n/a
		FY 2031	-	-	n/a
A038	**11.473**	**Hoko Watershed Restoration**			
		FY 2026	5,800,000	-	n/a
		FY 2027	2,900,000	-	n/a
		FY 2028	2,900,000	-	n/a
		FY 2029	-	-	n/a
		FY 2030	-	-	n/a
		FY 2031	-	-	n/a

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Code	Title
461	Department of Ecology

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates - Summary for RCW 43.88.096

CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(A) Federal Fiscal Year	(B) State Fiscal Year	(C) Federal Funds % of Agency Budget for State FY	(D) Federal Grant Projections Under a 5% Reduction	(E) Federal Grant Projections Under a 25% Reduction	(F) Probability Grant Will be Subject to Reduction (1 to 5)	(G) Agency Plans to Implement Reduction (Categories 1 to 5)	Comments
	Agency Total								
	FY 2026	**141,893,943**	**142,735,015**	**0.00%**	**134,799,246**	**106,420,457**			
	FY 2027	**136,898,893**	**140,279,082**	**0.00%**	**130,053,949**	**102,674,170**			
	FY 2028	**107,822,534**	**109,627,270**	**0.00%**	**102,431,407**	**80,866,901**			
	FY 2029	**78,719,385**	**76,871,973**	**0.00%**	**74,783,416**	**59,039,539**			
	FY 2030	**66,187,994**	**64,368,790**	**0.00%**	**62,878,594**	**49,640,996**			
	FY 2029	**65,903,075**	**64,082,504**	**0.00%**	**62,607,921**	**49,427,306**			
11.419	**Atmospheric Administration** **Coastal Zone Management Sections 306, 309, 310**								
	FY 2026	3,189,000	3,100,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	Beginning FFY26 award will be single year appropriation (instead of 2-year appropriation). Supports approximately 34 FTEs spread amongst approximately 59 state employees.
	FY 2027	3,189,000	3,189,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	
	FY 2028	3,189,000	3,189,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	
	FY 2029	3,189,000	3,189,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	
	FY 2030	3,189,000	3,189,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	
	FY 2031	3,189,000	3,189,000	0.00%	3,029,550	2,391,750	1	1	
11.420	**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration** **Coastal Zone Management Section 315**								
	FY 2026	931,000	880,967	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	Supports approximately 10.5 FTEs spread amongst 13 state employees. Beginning FFY26 award will be single year appropriation (instead of 2-year appropriation).
	FY 2027	931,000	931,000	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	
	FY 2028	931,000	931,000	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	
	FY 2029	931,000	931,000	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	
	FY 2030	931,000	931,000	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	
	FY 2031	931,000	931,000	0.00%	884,450	698,250	1	1	
15.243	**U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Land Management** **Washington Conservation Corps/BLM**								
	FY 2026	148,527	-	0.00%	141,101	111,395	1	1	CFDA number updated based on most recent award. Supports approximately 20 weeks of crew time annually. Although there was a break in funding, BLM has a specific directive to do more work with Conservation Corps. Funding may be more stable or potentially grow.
	FY 2027	150,000	148,527	0.00%	142,500	112,500	2	1	
	FY 2028	150,000	150,000	0.00%	142,500	112,500	2	1	
	FY 2029	150,000	150,000	0.00%	142,500	112,500	2	1	
	FY 2030	150,000	150,000	0.00%	142,500	112,500	2	1	
	FY 2031	150,000	150,000	0.00%	142,500	112,500	2	1	
15.676	**U.S. Department of Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Nisqually Wildlife Refuge**								
	FY 2026	199,519	157,054	0.00%	189,543	149,639	1	1	CFDA number updated based on most recent award. WCC has a long-standing partnership with NWR where WCC crews complete basic maintenance of the facilities. WCC/USFWS working to expand partnerships along the Columbia River Basin. Funding could remain the same or expand over next 2-5 years.
	FY 2027	200,000	199,519	0.00%	190,000	150,000	2	1	
	FY 2028	200,000	200,000	0.00%	190,000	150,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	200,000	200,000	0.00%	190,000	150,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	200,000	200,000	0.00%	190,000	150,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	200,000	200,000	0.00%	190,000	150,000	2	1	
15.614	**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service** **National Coastal Wetland Conservation (Capital)**								
	FY 2026	4,132,838	4,000,000	0.00%	3,926,196	3,099,629	3	1	Supports approximately 0.70 FTE. This grant also pays for contracts with conservation entities to purchase wetlands. FFY26 awards that are typically released Dec 2025 have not been released as of Jul 2026. New NOFO have been released for FFY2027 applications.
	FY 2027	5,750,000	4,132,838	0.00%	5,462,500	4,312,500	2	1	
	FY 2028	5,000,000	5,750,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	2	1	
15.808	**U.S. Geological Survey** **Studies of Morphology and Habitat**								
	FY 2026	65,000	90,000	0.00%	61,750	48,750	1	1	Expect to receive $65K of remaining $100K of current contract. Intend to establish another agreement when current one terminates at $80K annually.
	FY 2027	80,000	65,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	3	1	
	FY 2028	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	3	1	
	FY 2029	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	3	1	
	FY 2030	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	3	1	
	FY 2031	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	3	1	
15.931	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/North Cascades**								
	FY 2026	189,750	67,920	0.00%	180,263	142,313	5	1	NPS received an unusually high level of funding for FFY26, but funding opportunities are typically inconsistent and occur over multiple years. The funding levels for FFY27 forward are more likely.
	FY 2027	80,000	189,750	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2028	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
15.931	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Olympic National Park**								
	FY 2026	364,940	274,872	0.00%	346,693	273,705	5	1	Supports one crew annually. NPS awarded a one-time $100K grant in FFY26. The expected funding levels for FFY27 and forward is $250K annually.
	FY 2027	250,000	364,940	0.00%	237,500	187,500	2	1	
	FY 2028	250,000	250,000	0.00%	237,500	187,500	2	1	
	FY 2029	250,000	250,000	0.00%	237,500	187,500	2	1	
	FY 2030	250,000	250,000	0.00%	237,500	187,500	2	1	
	FY 2031	250,000	250,000	0.00%	237,500	187,500	2	1	

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates - Summary for RCW 43.88.096

CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(A) Federal Fiscal Year	(B) State Fiscal Year	(C) Federal Funds % of Agency Budget for State FY	(D) Federal Grant Projections Under a 5% Reduction	(E) Federal Grant Projections Under a 25% Reduction	(F) Probability Grant Will be Subject to Reduction (1 to 5)	(G) Agency Plans to Implement Reduction (Categories 1 to 5)	Comments
15.931	**U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service** **Washington Conservation Corps/Mount Rainier National Park**								
	FY 2026	123,840	-	0.00%	117,648	92,880	5	1	NPS received an unusually high level of funding for FFY26, but funding opportunities are typically inconsistent and occur over multiple years. The funding levels for FFY27 forward are more likely.
	FY 2027	80,000	123,840	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2028	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	2	1	
66.034	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Surveys, Studies, Investigations & Special Purpose Rel to Clean Air Act / NATTs**								
	FY 2026	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	NATTs Updated amount based on award EPA amounts received and remains on track
	FY 2027	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	
	FY 2028	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	
	FY 2029	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	
	FY 2030	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	
	FY 2031	80,000	80,000	0.00%	76,000	60,000	1	4,5	
66.034	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Surveys, Studies, Investigations & Special Purpose Rel to Clean Air Act / PM 2.5**								
	FY 2026	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	3	2,4	PM 2.5 remaining on track in accordance with workplan. Confimred based on recent annual progress report on 4/30/2026
	FY 2027	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	3	2,4	
	FY 2028	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	2	2,4	
	FY 2029	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	2	2,4	
	FY 2030	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	2	2,4	
	FY 2031	673,209	673,209	0.00%	639,549	504,907	2	2,4	
66.040	**Environmental Protection Agency** **National Clean Diesel Funding Assistance / DERA**								
	FY 2026	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	DERA. - Data on track with spending through current fund. Will request based on funding needs which are planning to remain consistent 21/22 funds available: 483,345 ($290,007 EPA, $193,338 VW) - awaiting closeouts 23/24 funds available: $809,875.50 (60% EPA, 40% State MTCCA) Main factors to consider for obligation:
	FY 2027	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	
	FY 2028	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	
	FY 2029	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	
	FY 2030	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	
	FY 2031	1,660,119	1,660,119	0.00%	1,577,113	1,245,089	2	2,4	
66.123	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Puget Sound Action Agenda: Technical Investigations and Implementation Assistance Program**								
	FY 2026	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	1	1,2	Comment: Ecy received annual awards for the NEP Stormwater Strategic Initative (SI) grant through FFY2029. EPA will initiate a new competitive process for the next round of NEP grants in summer/fall 2026. We anticipate similar incremental awards over the next 5 years (6/1/21 - 6/30/26).
	FY 2027	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	1	1,2	
	FY 2028	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	1	1,2	
	FY 2029	5,000,000	5,000,000	0.00%	4,750,000	3,750,000	1	1,2	
	FY 2030								
	FY 2031								
66.419	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Monitoring Strategies Grant**								
	FY 2026	169,000	169,000	0.00%	160,550	126,750	1	1	Every five years, in addition to the annual grant for biological monitoring, EAP also receives funding for the National Lakes Assessment. The latest occurrence is in FY 2027.
	FY 2027	337,000	337,000	0.00%	320,150	252,750	1	1	
	FY 2028	169,000	169,000	0.00%	160,550	126,750	1	1	
	FY 2029	169,000	169,000	0.00%	160,550	126,750	1	1	
	FY 2030	169,000	169,000	0.00%	160,550	126,750	1	1	
	FY 2031	169,000	169,000	0.00%	160,550	126,750	1	1	
66.419	**Environmental Protection Agency** **BEACH Program**								
	FY 2026	271,000	271,000	0.00%	257,450	203,250	1	1,2	While this program does not issue grants, it does pass through funding to the Dept of Health and Local Health Jurisdictions.
	FY 2027	277,000	277,000	0.00%	263,150	207,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2028	277,000	277,000	0.00%	263,150	207,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2029	277,000	277,000	0.00%	263,150	207,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2030	277,000	277,000	0.00%	263,150	207,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2031	277,000	277,000	0.00%	263,150	207,750	1	1,2	
66.454	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Water Quality Management & Planning CWA 604(b)**								
	FY 2026	551,564	551,564	0.00%	523,986	413,673	2	1	For 2025-27, we received a significant increase due to the SRF increase (604(b) is 1% of our SRF funding level). We do not expect to receive this much for the 2027-29 biennium. Unless EPA notifies us of a reduction, we anticipate the 2027-29 biennial award to be ~ $800,000. This grant supports ~3 - 5 FTE annually.
	FY 2027	551,564	551,564	0.00%	523,986	413,673	2	1	
	FY 2028	400,000	400,000	0.00%	380,000	300,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	400,000	400,000	0.00%	380,000	300,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	400,000	400,000	0.00%	380,000	300,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	400,000	400,000	0.00%	380,000	300,000	2	1	
66.460	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Nonpoint Source Implementation Grants 319 (h)**								
	FY 2026	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	Grant has been relatively stable. ECY has not heard yet from EPA whether the award for the 27-29 biennium will be any different - or reduced - from the current biennium. This grant supports ~ 8 FTE annually.
	FY 2027	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2028	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2029	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2030	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	
	FY 2031	3,233,000	3,233,000	0.00%	3,071,350	2,424,750	1	1,2	

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates - Summary for RCW 43.88.096

CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(A) Federal Fiscal Year	(B) State Fiscal Year	(C) Federal Funds % of Agency Budget for State FY	(D) Federal Grant Projections Under a 5% Reduction	(E) Federal Grant Projections Under a 25% Reduction	(F) Probability Grant Will be Subject to Reduction (1 to 5)	(G) Agency Plans to Implement Reduction (Categories 1 to 5)	Comments
66.461	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Regional Wetland Development grants**								
	FY 2026	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	Supports approximately 1.5 state employees every fiscal year. Grants are awarded every 2 years, but SEA does not have capacity for the FFY27 grants. Anticipate will apply for the next grant cycle.
	FY 2027	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2028	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2029	375,000	375,000	0.00%	356,250	281,250	1	1	
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2031	375,000	375,000	0.00%	356,250	281,250	1	1	
66.458	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Water Pollution Control**								
	FY 2026	74,128,000	77,826,000	0.00%	70,421,600	55,596,000	1	1	This grant has been stable over the last several biennia. ECY is authorized to receive larger awards through FY 2027 due to a federal stimulus related to COVID-19.
	FY 2027	61,410,000	65,098,953	0.00%	58,339,500	46,057,500	1	1	
	FY 2028	30,000,000	30,000,000	0.00%	28,500,000	22,500,000	1	1	
	FY 2029	30,000,000	30,000,000	0.00%	28,500,000	22,500,000	1	1	
	FY 2030	30,000,000	30,000,000	0.00%	28,500,000	22,500,000	1	1	
	FY 2031	30,000,000	30,000,000	0.00%	28,500,000	22,500,000	1	1	
66.447	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Sewer Overflow and Stormwater Reuse Municipal Grant**								
	FY 2026	764,000	764,000	0.00%	725,800	573,000	1	1	Ecy expects to pass through all of the funds to local governments and Tribes. WQ does not expect funding to continue beyond FY 2027.
	FY 2027	945,000	945,000	0.00%	897,750	708,750	1	1	
	FY 2028								
	FY 2029								
	FY 2030								
	FY 2031								
66.605	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Performance Partnership Grant**								
	FY 2026	7,258,344	5,443,757	0.00%	6,895,427	5,443,758	2	1	Grant has been relatively stable through the years. ECY received an award for 2025-27 that was in alignment with the prior biennium. ECY has not heard from EPA whether the funding for the next biennium will be similar or reduced. ~ 110 FTE are supported by this grant.
	FY 2027	7,261,342	5,446,004	0.00%	6,898,275	5,446,007	2	1	
	FY 2028	7,266,346	5,449,757	0.00%	6,903,029	5,449,760	2	1	
	FY 2029	7,271,500	5,453,623	0.00%	6,907,925	5,453,625	2	1	
	FY 2030	7,276,809	5,457,605	0.00%	6,912,969	5,457,607	2	1	
	FY 2031	7,282,277	5,461,706	0.00%	6,918,163	5,461,708	2	1	
66.708	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Pollution Prevention Grants Program - P2 Grant**								
	FY 2026	206,256	206,256	0.00%	195,943	154,692	1	1	FY 23 P2 grant extended through 09/30/26. No indications from EPA of potential reductions.
	FY 2027	109,190	109,190	0.00%	103,731	81,893	1	1	
	FY 2028	297,794	297,794	0.00%	282,904	223,346	1	1	
	FY 2029	225,000	225,000	0.00%	213,750	168,750	1	1	
	FY 2030	225,000	225,000	0.00%	213,750	168,750	1	1	
	FY 2031	225,000	225,000	0.00%	213,750	168,750	1	1	
66.801	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Hazardous Waste Management State Program Support**								
	FY 2026	945,061	945,061	0.00%	897,808	708,796	1	1	Three agreements include Upper Columbia, Commencement Bay Lead Assessment and Multi-Site. Stand alone Commencement Bay grant rolled into Multi Site grant.
	FY 2027	1,678,510	1,678,510	0.00%	1,594,585	1,258,883	1	1	
	FY 2028	1,678,510	1,678,510	0.00%	1,594,585	1,258,883	3	3	
	FY 2029	1,678,510	1,678,510	0.00%	1,594,585	1,258,883	3	3	
	FY 2030	1,678,510	1,678,510	0.00%	1,594,585	1,258,883	3	3	
	FY 2031	1,678,510	1,678,510	0.00%	1,594,585	1,258,883	3	3	
66.802	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Superfund State, Political Subdivision & Indian Tribe Site Specific Coop Agreement**								
	FY 2026	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	Three agreements include Upper Columbia, Commencement Bay and Multi-Site. Anticipating extension for 2023-25 biennium for all 3. Expecting Commencement Bay spent next biennium. 2025-27 has next installment for UCR.
	FY 2027	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	
	FY 2028	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	
	FY 2029	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	
	FY 2030	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	
	FY 2031	462,036	462,036	0.00%	438,934	346,527	3	3	
66.804	**Environmental Protection Agency** **State & Tribal Underground Storage Tank Program (LUST Prevention & STAG)**								
	FY 2026	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	Saw minor reductions recently. This federal funding has been targeted for reduction in past federal executive budgets.
	FY 2027	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	
	FY 2028	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	
	FY 2029	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	
	FY 2030	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	
	FY 2031	485,077	485,077	0.00%	460,823	363,808	3	3	
66.805	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Leaking Underground Storage Tank Fund Program (LUST)**								
	FY 2026	486,940	486,940	0.00%	462,593	365,205	3	3	LUST sees regular reductions though they are usually minor other than when significant funding was directed to PLIA instead of Ecology. This federal funding has been targeted for reduction in past federal executive budgets.
	FY 2027	486,940	486,940	0.00%	462,593	365,205	3	3	
	FY 2028	486,940	486,940	0.00%	462,593	365,205	3	3	
	FY 2029	486,940	486,940	0.00%	462,593	365,205	3	3	
	FY 2030	486,940	486,940	0%	462,593	365,205	3	3	
	FY 2031	486,940	486,940	0%	462,593	365,205	3	3	

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates - Summary for RCW 43.88.096

CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(A) Federal Fiscal Year	(B) State Fiscal Year	(C) Federal Funds % of Agency Budget for State FY	(D) Federal Grant Projections Under a 5% Reduction	(E) Federal Grant Projections Under a 25% Reduction	(F) Probability Grant Will be Subject to Reduction (1 to 5)	(G) Agency Plans to Implement Reduction (Categories 1 to 5)	Comments
66.809	**Environmental Protection Agency** **Superfund State and Indian Tribe Core Program Cooperative Agreements (CORE)**								
	FY 2026	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	This grant is stable in dollar value award. This federal funding has been targeted for reduction in past federal executive budgets.
	FY 2027	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	
	FY 2028	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	
	FY 2029	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	
	FY 2030	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	
	FY 2031	126,000	126,000	0.00%	119,700	94,500	1	1	
66.817	**Environmental Protection Agency** **State & Tribal Response Program Grants (STRP)**								
	FY 2026	1,566,065	1,566,065	0.00%	1,487,762	1,174,549	1	1,4	Includes STRP and STRP IIJA awards. IIJA award will run through December of 2027 (which is FY 28), and then expires. After that grant expires expecting to be back at roughly $2 million award/ biennium. IIJA award has consistently been below the $1 million per year for year 1-4.
	FY 2027	1,566,065	1,566,065	0.00%	1,487,762	1,174,549	1	1,4	
	FY 2028	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	5	5	
	FY 2029	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	5	5	
	FY 2030	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	5	5	
	FY 2031	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	5	5	
81.104	**US Department of Energy** **Oversight of CERCLA practices at the Hanford Site**								
	FY 2026	3,711,985	3,684,956	0.00%	3,526,386	2,783,989	1	1	Grant amount assumes increases due to increased staffing, travel, supplies/equipment and indirect costs.
	FY 2027	3,823,345	3,795,505	0.00%	3,632,178	2,867,509	1	1	
	FY 2028	3,938,045	3,909,370	0.00%	3,741,143	2,953,534	1	1	
	FY 2029	4,056,186	4,026,651	0.00%	3,853,377	3,042,140	1	1	
	FY 2030	3,908,747	3,908,747	0.00%	3,713,310	2,931,560	1	1	
	FY 2031	4,026,010	4,026,010	0.00%	3,824,710	3,019,508	1	1	
97.023	**Federal Emergency Management Agency** **National Flood Insurance Program - Community Assistance Program**								
	FY 2026	300,000	293,289	0.00%	285,000	225,000	1	1	Supports approximately 4.0 FTEs spread amongst 8 state employees each fiscal year.
	FY 2027	300,000	300,000	0.00%	285,000	225,000	2	1	
	FY 2028	300,000	300,000	0.00%	285,000	225,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	300,000	300,000	0.00%	285,000	225,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	300,000	300,000	0.00%	285,000	225,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	300,000	300,000	0.00%	285,000	225,000	2	1	
97.041	**Federal Emergency Management Agency** **National Dam Safety**								
	FY 2026	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	This grant supports approximately 1.0 state employee every fiscal year. There are no other expenditures.
	FY 2027	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	
	FY 2028	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	
	FY 2029	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	
	FY 2030	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	
	FY 2031	101,000	101,000	0.00%	95,950	75,750	1	1	
97.045	**Federal Emergency Management Agency** **Cooperating Technical Partners**								
	FY 2026	235,000	-	0.00%	223,250	176,250	1	1	Includes CTP RiskMap (1.0 FTE) and Hydraulics and Hydrology (0.15 FTE) grant awards. Supports approximately 1.15 state employees every fiscal year. No funding received in FFY25/SFY26 but NOFO for FFY26 is underway.
	FY 2027	235,000	235,000	0.00%	223,250	176,250	2	1	
	FY 2028	235,000	235,000	0.00%	223,250	176,250	2	1	
	FY 2029	235,000	235,000	0.00%	223,250	176,250	2	1	
	FY 2030	235,000	235,000	0.00%	223,250	176,250	2	1	
	FY 2031	235,000	235,000	0.00%	223,250	176,250	2	1	
11.463	**National Oceanic and** **NWS Marine Conservation Initiative**								
	FY 2026	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	1	1	Previous funding was congressionally directed spending (CDS), but new funding is programmatic funding (which is more secure funding than CDS). FFY25 funding was not awarded but FFY26 funding has been awarded. Supports 2.75 FTE spread amongst 9 staff and Marine Resource Committees.
	FY 2027	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	2	1	
	FY 2028	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	2	1	
	FY 2029	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	2	1	
	FY 2030	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	2	1	
	FY 2031	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	2	1	
66.419	**Environmental Protection Agency** **National Wetland Condition Assessment**								
	FY 2026	217,350	217,350	0.00%	206,483	163,013	1	1	Grants are awarded every 5 years.
	FY 2027	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2028	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2029	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2031	217,350	217,350	0.00%	206,483	163,013	1	1	

2027-29 Federal Funding Estimates - Summary for RCW 43.88.096

CFDA No. *	Agency / CFDA Title	(A) Federal Fiscal Year	(B) State Fiscal Year	(C) Federal Funds % of Agency Budget for State FY	(D) Federal Grant Projections Under a 5% Reduction	(E) Federal Grant Projections Under a 25% Reduction	(F) Probability Grant Will be Subject to Reduction (1 to 5)	(G) Agency Plans to Implement Reduction (Categories 1 to 5)	Comments
BIL/IRA Funding									
66.123	**Environmental Protection Agency Puget Sound Climate Riparian System Lead**								
	FY 2026	5,250,000	5,250,000	0.00%	4,987,500	3,937,500	1	1	Requesting a 7th year no cost extension in FY2027. No additional money is expected. The final funding of $4.5M was not awarded by EPA. This is BIL/IIJA one-time funding. This supports 2.6 FTEs at Ecology.
	FY 2027	6,229,345	6,229,345	0.00%	5,917,878	4,672,009	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2028	1,611,709	1,611,709	0.00%	1,531,124	1,208,782	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2029	7,014,261	7,014,261	0.00%	6,663,548	5,260,696	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2031	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
66.962	**Environmental Protection Agency Columbia River Basin Toxic Reduction Lead**								
	FY 2026	3,175,315	3,175,315	0.00%	3,016,549	2,381,486	1	4	This is a one time geographical grant that expires on June 30, 2029. To date we have received 73% of the federal funding.
	FY 2027								
	FY 2028								
	FY 2029								
	FY 2030								
	FY 2031								
66.454	**Environmental Protection Agency CWA (604) Water Quality Mgmt Planning Grants**								
	FY 2026	282,604	282,604	0.00%	268,474	211,953	1	4	This is a catgorical grant that we have received steady funding for over the years. However, we do not expect to receive IIJA/BIL funding as part of the grant in the future. This portion of 604(b) should be zeroed out.
	FY 2027	282,604	282,604	0.00%	268,474	211,953			
	FY 2028	-	-	0.00%	-	-			
	FY 2029	-	-	0.00%	-	-			
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-			
	FY 2031	-	-	0.00%	-	-			
66.034	**Environmental Protection Agency Clean Air Grants under the Inflation Reduction Act**								
	FY 2026	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	Curent submitted amounts based off of workplan to EPA. Currently on track and semi annual progress report completed 4/30/2026
	FY 2027	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	
	FY 2028	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	
	FY 2029	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	
	FY 2030	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	
	FY 2031	1,450,547	1,450,547	0.00%	1,378,020	1,087,910	1	4	
66.817	**Environmental Protection Agency State & Tribal Response Program Grants (STRP) IIJA**								
	FY 2026	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	This grant start July 2027 and is replaces the final year of the other IIJA (but is stand alone award).
	FY 2027	-	-	0.00%	-	-	1	1	
	FY 2028	566,065	566,065	0.00%	537,762	424,549	1	1	
	FY 2029	-	-		-	-			
	FY 2030	-	-		-	-			
	FY 2031	-	-		-	-			
66.818	**Environmental Protection Agency**								
	Community-Wide Assesment Grant for States and Tribes Cooperative Agreement								
	FY 2026	2,000,000	2,000,000	0.00%	1,900,000	1,500,000	1	1	Award of 2,000,000 given in FY26 and we have until 9/30/2030 to spend it. No incremental awards.
	FY 2027	1,000,000	1,000,000	0.00%	950,000	750,000	1	1	
	FY 2028	1,000,000	1,000,000		950,000	750,000			
	FY 2029	1,000,000	1,000,000		950,000	750,000			
	FY 2030	1,000,000	1,000,000		950,000	750,000			
	FY 2031				-	-			
66.123	**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Climate Resilience Partners**								
	FY 2026	10,960,057	10,960,057	0.00%	10,412,054	8,220,043	1	1	Requesting a 7th year no cost extension in FY2027. No additional money is expected. The final funding of $4.5M was not awarded by EPA. This is BIL/IIJA one-time funding. This supports 2.6 FTEs at Ecology.
	FY 2027	25,425,000	25,425,000	0.00%	24,153,750	19,068,750	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2028	34,365,137	34,365,137	0.00%	32,646,880	25,773,853	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2029	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2031	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
11.473	**Hoko Watershed Restoration**								
	FY 2026	5,800,000	5,800,000	0.00%	5,510,000	4,350,000	1	1	The grant is slow to spend in the first year of the grant. This grant will go into FY28 and we anticipate the spending to increase as the projects get going.
	FY 2027	2,900,000	2,900,000	0.00%	2,755,000	2,175,000	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2028	2,900,000	2,900,000	0.00%	2,755,000	2,175,000	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2029	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2030	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	
	FY 2031	-	-	0.00%	-	-	n/a	n/a	

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Tab E Specified Documents..... 347

1. Central Services Agency Fund Splits 349
2. State Fee Inventory 351
3. Enterprise Risk Management Update 361

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Central Service Fund Splits

		All Columns by Agency must equal 100%									
Agency	Account and Approp Title	Auditor	AttGen	OAH	Facilities & Services Only	WaTech	Debt Services	Workers' Comp	All Other	Risk Mgmt Division	Self Insurance
461-Department of Ecology	001-1 General Fund-State	9.00%	23.60%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%	9.00%
461-Department of Ecology	027-1 Reclamation Account-State	0.60%	0.80%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%
461-Department of Ecology	02P-1 Flood Control Assistance Account-State	0.60%	0.50%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%	0.60%
461-Department of Ecology	044-1 Waste Reduct/Recycle/Litter Control-State	3.80%	1.20%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%	3.80%
461-Department of Ecology	176-1 Water Quality Permit Account-State	13.10%	12.70%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%	13.10%
461-Department of Ecology	182-1 Underground Storage Tank Account-State	1.00%	0.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%	1.00%
461-Department of Ecology	199-1 Biosolids Permit Account-State	0.50%	0.00%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%	0.50%
461-Department of Ecology	207-1 Hazardous Waste Assistance Account-State	2.10%	0.50%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%	2.10%
461-Department of Ecology	20R-1 Radioactive Mixed Waste Account-State	5.30%	4.10%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%	5.30%
461-Department of Ecology	216-1 Air Pollution Control Account-State	0.90%	1.00%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%
461-Department of Ecology	217-1 Oil Spill Prevention Account-State	1.80%	0.00%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%	1.80%
461-Department of Ecology	219-1 Air Operating Permit Account-State	0.90%	0.00%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%	0.90%
461-Department of Ecology	23P-1 Model Toxics Control Operating Account-Sta	47.50%	40.90%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%	47.50%
461-Department of Ecology	23R-1 Model Toxics Strmwtr-State	0.00%	0.80%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%
461-Department of Ecology	25Q-1 Clean Fuels Program-State	0.80%	1.10%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%
461-Department of Ecology	26B-1 Climate Investment Account-State	6.80%	9.30%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%	6.80%
461-Department of Ecology	26C-1 Climate Commitment-State	2.00%	2.20%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
461-Department of Ecology	26D-1 Natural Climate Solutions-State	1.20%	0.50%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%	1.20%
461-Department of Ecology	30J-1 Laboratory Accreditation Account-State	0.70%	0.00%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%	0.70%
461-Department of Ecology	564-1 Water Pollution Ctrl Revl Admin-State	1.40%	0.80%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%	1.40%

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

State Fee Inventory

Agency	461	Department of

September 2026

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Agricultural Burning Fee	Department of Ecology	$3.75/acre, $1/ton pile burning	$3.75/acre, $1/ton pile burning	$3.75/acre, $1/ton pile burning	$3.75/acre, $1/ton pile burning	$3.75/acre, $1/ton pile burning	RCW 70A.15.5090	The fee is imposed on all agricultural burning activities. The fee cap is established by the Legislature. The fee is set by rule and is determined by the agricultural burning practices and research task force.
Air Contaminant Source Registration Fee	Department of Ecology	$200-$8,000	$200-$8,000	$241 - $9,627	$241 - $9,627	$318-$12,710	RCW 70A.15.2200	Any person operating or responsible for the operation of air contaminant sources are required to register and report to the Department. The fee is determined by a workload analysis based on the cost of the registration program in counties without an active local air pollution control authority (WAC: 173-455-040).
Air Operating Permit Fee	Department of Ecology	$27,428 - $339,209	$27,428 - $339,209	$37,784- $505,364	$37,784- $505,364	$37,784- $505,364	RCW 70A.15.2270	Statute authorizes Ecology to annually collect fees to administer an Air Operating Permit Program for large industrial sources. Fees established are based on a sliding scale to cover direct and indirect program costs. The fee is set by workload model, as described in WAC.
Battery Stewardship Program Annual Fee	Department of Ecology	N/A	N/A	Fee amount will be based on Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the battery stewardship program. We assume two stewardship organizations will pay the fee, which may be pro-rated by relative volumes managed by each organization. Fee collection is expected to begin in FY 2027.	The fee amount will be based on Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the battery stewardship program.	The fee amount will be based on Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the battery stewardship program.	RCW 70A.555.100	Battery stewardship organizations must pay an annual fee to cover Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the battery stewardship program. The fee is expected to be effective in FY 2027 after rulemaking is complete.
Biosolids Permit Fee	Department of Ecology	Annual fee of $956.092 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent rate ranges from $0.081 to $0.342; Average Permit Fee = $2,855.	Annual fee of $956.092 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent rate ranges from $0.081 to $0.342; Average Permit Fee = $2,855.	Annual fee of $1,067.89 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent rate ranges from $0.081 to $0.380; Average Permit Fee = $3,325.48	Annual fee of $1,136.34 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent rate ranges from $0.086 to $0.404; Average Permit Fee = $3,538.64.	Annual fee of $1,210.32 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent rate ranges from $0.092 to $0.430; Average Permit Fee = $3,769.01.	RCW 70A.226.030	The fee funds implementation of the state biosolids management program, that includes rule development, permitting, technical assistance and enforcement activities. The fee is based on a "residential equivalent" or RE value determined for each facility subject to the program. The majority (> 300) of the 375 facilities covered by the program are publicly owned wastewater treatment plants. The RE value generally relates to the size of the facility or operation. Each facility is charged an annual fee of $956.092 plus an additional fee for each residential equivalent. The fee for each residential equivalent ranges from $0.081 to $0.342, depending on the type of activity. There are caps in place for some types of facilities. New permit applicants also pay a one-time review fee of $2,868.28. Revenue collection is reliable, generally trending upward over time with increases in population and the amount of wastewater treated/biosolids generated. Ecology has established a few schedule in rule.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Certified Water Right Examiner Fee	Department of Ecology	$500 total with (1) initial exam fee of $300, and (2) initial certification fee of $200. $100 annual certification fee. $50 late fee for renewal up to 30 days past due and $100 for renewal 31 to 90 days past due.	$500 total with (1) initial exam fee of $300, and (2) initial certification fee of $200. $100 annual certification fee. $50 late fee for renewal up to 30 days past due and $100 for renewal 31 to 90 days past due.	The first examination cost is $500 total with (1) initial exam fee of $300, and (2) initial certification fee of $200. $100 annual certification fee. $50 late fee for renewal up to 30 days past due and $100 for renewal 31 to 90 days past due.	The first examination cost is $500 total with (1) initial exam fee of $300, and (2) initial certification fee of $200. $100 annual certification fee. $50 late fee for renewal up to 30 days past due and $100 for renewal 31 to 90 days past due.	The first examination cost is $500 total with (1) initial exam fee of $300, and (2) initial certification fee of $200. $100 annual certification fee. $50 late fee for renewal up to 30 days past due and $100 for renewal 31 to 90 days past due.	RCW 90.03.665	Covers costs for program that authorizes contractors to complete the proof examination to qualify water users for water right certificates.
Clean Fuels Program Fee	Department of Ecology	Each deficit generator will pay: $50,649. Each credit generator will pay: $982.	Each deficit generator will pay: $50,649. Each credit generator will pay: $982.	Category 1 (highest fee) — top 30% of deficit generators, 70% of fee amount; Category 2 (middle fee) — middle 30% of deficit generators, 20% of fee amount; Category 3 (lowest fee) — lower 30% of deficit generators, 10% of fee amount; General participation fee (5% of total program) per participant	Category 1 (highest fee) — top 30% of deficit generators, 70% of fee amount; 71,033 Category 2 (middle fee) — middle 30% of deficit generators, 20% of fee amount; 20,295 Category 3 (lowest fee) — lower 30% of deficit generators, 10% of fee amount; 10,148 General participation fee (5% of total program, 278 participants as of 1/23) PER PARTICIPANT; 186	Category 1 (highest fee) — top 30% of deficit generators, 70% of fee amount; 71,033 Category 2 (middle fee) — middle 30% of deficit generators, 20% of fee amount; 20,295 Category 3 (lowest fee) — lower 30% of deficit generators, 10% of fee amount; 10,148 General participation fee (5% of total program, 278 participants as of 1/23) PER PARTICIPANT; 186	RCW 70A.535.130	Fee covers the cost to participate in the Clean Fuel Standard program and is based on the estimated costs to administer the program for the coming year.
Columbia Basin Water Supply Permit Recovery	Department of Ecology	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given permit / contract to use water from an OCR developed supply.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given permit / contract to use water from an OCR developed supply.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given permit / contract to use water from an OCR developed supply.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given permit / contract to use water from an OCR developed supply.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given permit / contract to use water from an OCR developed supply.	RCW 90.90.010(6)	Cost to develop new water supplies under RCW 90.90 is passed through to recipients using the water under permit from Ecology based on the type of water developed and the amount received.
Dam Construction and Inspection Fee	Department of Ecology	New Const.$2462 to $98532 / Dam Safety-$1977 to percent (10/25/35) of project's new const. fee / Safety deficiency repair-$1400 / Removal with safety deficiency$10 / Reclamation of mining $1400 / Inspection Fee $1208 High & $881 Significant Hazard.	New Const.$2462 to $98532 / Dam Safety-$1977 to percent (10/25/35) of project's new const. fee / Safety deficiency repair-$1400 / Removal with safety deficiency$10 / Reclamation of mining $1400 / Inspection Fee $1208 High & $881 Significant Hazard.	New Const.$2462 to $98532 / Dam Safety-$1977 to percent (10/25/35) of project's new const. fee / Safety deficiency repair-$1400 / Removal with safety deficiency$10 / Reclamation of mining $1400 / Inspection Fee $1208 High & $881 Significant Hazard.	New Const.$2462 to $98532 / Dam Safety-$1977 to percent (10/25/35) of project's new const. fee / Safety deficiency repair-$1400 / Removal with safety deficiency$10 / Reclamation of mining $1400 / Inspection Fee $1208 High & $881 Significant Hazard.	New Const.$2462 to $98532 / Dam Safety-$1977 to percent (10/25/35) of project's new const. fee / Safety deficiency repair-$1400 / Removal with safety deficiency$10 / Reclamation of mining $1400 / Inspection Fee $1208 High & $881 Significant Hazard.	RCW 90.03.470(8) & (9)	The statute provides for fees for inspection of hydraulic works to assure safety. Ecology charges for the review of plans and specifications of storage dams. Ecology charges fees for engineering plan reviews of dams proposed for construction or modification and imposes a fee on period inspection of high and significant hazard dams. Irregular fee interval - fee required prior to approval of repairs or new construction. The inspection fee is charged each year though inspections are on a five year cycle. 80% of the fee is deposited in GFS and 20% will be deposited into the Water Rights Tracking System Acct.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Employee Parking Fee	Department of Ecology	$20	$20	$20	20	20	RCW 43.01.240	Fees are charged to Lacey building employees to reserve a parking space. This money is used to pay for commute trip reduction incentives. Monthly fee of $20 is set by Executive Leadership Team.
Expedited Voluntary Cleanup Recoveries or Fees	Department of Ecology	Cost Recovery and/or Fee.	Cost Recovery and/or Fee.	Cost Recovery and/or Fee.	Cost Recovery and/or Fee.	Cost Recovery and/or Fee.	RCW 70A.305.170	$3,000 application fee $1,500 close out fee or $9,000 close out fee if it includes environmental covenant Cost recovery on technical assistance hours
Expedited Water Right Processing Fee	Department of Ecology	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given contract.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given contract.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given contract.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given contract.	The amount will be variable and based on the specifics and complexity of any given contract.	RCW 90.03.665	Fee Paid to process water right application. Fee is variable depending on the complexity and time to process application. Fee will capture 100% of agency cost to process application.
Greenhouse Gas Reporting Fee	Department of Ecology	$2,604 per facility	$2,604 per facility	Reporting fee for entities subject to third-party verification $2,269 Reporting fee for entities not subject to third-party verification $429	Reporting fee for entities subject to third-party verification $2,269 Reporting fee for entities not subject to third-party verification $429	Reporting fee for entities subject to third-party verification $2,269 Reporting fee for entities not subject to third-party verification $429	RCW 70A.15.2200	Annual fees are collected from facilities required to report greenhouse gas emissions. The fees cover the administrative costs of the greenhouse gas reporting program and are based on a workload model and limited to fee eligible activities in statue. Details are established in WAC 173-441-110.
Hazardous Waste Generation Fee	Department of Ecology	$60 estimated annual fee per generator. Statutory rate adjustment will be calculated in March.	$65 estimated annual fee per generator. Statutory rate adjustment will be calculated in March.	$65 estimated annual fee per generator. Statutory rate adjustment will be calculated in March.	$69 per generator (estimated). Statutory rate adjustment will be calculated in March.	$70 per generator (estimated). Statutory rate adjustment will be calculated in March.	RCW 70A.218.020 RCW 70A.218.040 RCW 70A.218.050	The department collects an annual fee from hazardous waste generators to conduct activities to help generators voluntarily reduce such waste and reduce use of toxic substances. Every generator pays the same amount.
Hazardous Waste Planning Fee	Department of Ecology	Total ESTIMATED maximum revenue=$2,597,713; Individual ESTIMATED facility maximum=$25,977. Statutory rates and inflation adjustment will be calculated in March.	Total ESTIMATED maximum revenue=$2,597,713; Individual ESTIMATED facility maximum=$25,977. Statutory rates and inflation adjustment will be calculated in March.	Total ESTIMATED maximum revenue=$2,623,690; Individual ESTIMATED facility maximum=$26,236. Statutory rates and inflation adjustment will be calculated in March.	Total ESTIMATED maximum revenue=$2,767,400; Individual ESTIMATED facility maximum=$27,674. Statutory rates and inflation adjustment will be calculated in March.	Total ESTIMATED maximum revenue=$2,808,911; Individual ESTIMATED facility maximum=$28,089. Statutory rates and inflation adjustment will be calculated in March.	RCW 70A.218.030 RCW 70A.218.040 RCW 70A.218.050	An annual fee is imposed on hazardous waste generators that are required to prepare plans under RCW 70A.214.110. The fee (due every July 1) is based on the pounds of hazardous waste and toxic emissions as reported annually by planning facilities.
Hydropower License Fee	Department of Ecology	For each & every theoretical horsepower (hp) 51-1,000 hp: 18 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 3.6 cents Over 10,000 hp: 1.8 cents FERC projects in operation - 51-1,000 hp: 32 cents 1,001- 10,000 hp: 6.4 cents Over 10,000 hp: 3.2 cents.	For each & every theoretical horsepower (hp) 51-1,000 hp: 18 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 3.6 cents Over 10,000 hp: 1.8 cents FERC projects in operation - 51-1,000 hp: 32 cents 1,001- 10,000 hp: 6.4 cents Over 10,000 hp: 3.2 cents.	For each & every theoretical horsepower (hp) 51-1,000 hp: 18 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 3.6 cents Over 10,000 hp: 1.8 cents FERC projects in operation - 51-1,000 hp: 32 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 6.4 cents Over 10,000 hp: 3.2 cents.	For each & every theoretical horsepower (hp) 51-1,000 hp: 18 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 3.6 cents Over 10,000 hp: 1.8 cents FERC projects in operation - 51-1,000 hp: 32 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 6.4 cents Over 10,000 hp: 3.2 cents.	For each & every theoretical horsepower (hp) 51-1,000 hp: 18 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 3.6 cents Over 10,000 hp: 1.8 cents FERC projects in operation - 51-1,000 hp: 32 cents 1,001-10,000 hp: 6.4 cents Over 10,000 hp: 3.2 cents.	RCW 90.16.050 90.16.090	Annual charge is based upon a statutory fee formula established in 1929 which requires calculating the theoretical horsepower of project.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Incinerator Operator Certification Fee	Department of Ecology	Rate = $360-$410 for first time operator certification, $50-$210 for first time inspector certification, and $200 for operator recertification.	Rate = $360-$410 for first time operator certification, $50-$210 for first time inspector certification, and $200 for operator recertification.	Rate = $360-$410 for first time operator certification, $50-$210 for first time inspector certification, and $200 for operator recertification.	Operators pay $50 exam fee, $200 certification fee, and a $200 renewal fee. Public agency inspectors are exempt with exception to application and textbook fees.	Operators pay $50 exam fee, $200 certification fee, and a $200 renewal fee. Public agency inspectors are exempt with exception to application and textbook fees.	RCW 70A.216.020	The solid waste landfill operator certification/recertification program is administered for Ecology by the Solid Waste Management Association of North America through a Memorandum of Agreement. All fees related to the solid waste certification program go to SWANA. The incinerator operator/inspector program administered by Ecology certifies/recertifies operators of solid waste incinerators. All fees related are paid to Ecology. Public agency employee inspectors are specifically exempt from all certification/recertification fees by rule and pay only the application and if needed, the textbook fee.
Lab Accreditation Program Fee	Department of Ecology	$300-$25,000	$300-$25,000	$500-$50,000	$500-$50,000	$500-$75,000	RCW 43.21A.230	Ecology's laboratory accreditation program evaluates environmental laboratories to determine whether the laboratories have demonstrated the capability to provide accurate, defensible data. Accreditation is required for those entities which conduct tests or prepare data for submittal to the agency. Fees are determined by the type of analyses performed. Fees are intended to cover the cost of the accreditation program, however, they do not directly support the program as they are deposited into General Fund-State (GF-S). Previously, the laboratory accreditation program was entirely funded with GF-S. However, during the 2017-19 biennium, the program's GF-S was replaced with State Toxics Control Account (STCA) funding, which, in turn was replaced by Model Toxics Control Account - Operating funding in the 2019-21 biennium.
Landfill Methane Emission Fees	Department of Ecology	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	RCW 70A.540.130	RCW 70A.540.130 authorizes Ecology to collect fees yearly to administer the Landfill Methane Program for Washington State Landfills.
Low Level Site Perpetual Care & Maint Fee	Department of Ecology	$1.75/cu ft.	$1.75/cu ft.	$1.75/cu ft.	$1.75/cu ft.	$1.75/cu ft.	RCW 70A.384.050(2)	US Ecology collects $1.75 for each cubic foot of radioactive waste received for disposal. The company remits the revenue to the Department of Ecology who deposits these funds into the perpetual surveillance and maintenance account. Fee revenue deposited in the PSMA fund the State's obligations for ensuring adequate funds for long term surveillance and maintenance at the commercial low level waste disposal facility after return to the federal government under the prime lease between the United States and State of Washington.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Manufacturer Registration and Renewal Fee	Department of Ecology	Amounts are based on the latest Tier Schedule for the 2024 fee. Tier 1 = $35,792 Tier 2 = $10,112 Tier 3 = $1,201 Tier 4 = $234 Tier 5 = $63 Tier 6 = $0 (not collected)	Amounts are based on the latest Tier Schedule for the 2024 fee. Tier 1 = $35,792 Tier 2 = $10,112 Tier 3 = $1,201 Tier 4 = $234 Tier 5 = $63 Tier 6 = $0 (not collected)	Amounts are based on the latest Tier Schedule for the 2024 fee. Tier 1 = $35,792 Tier 2 = $10,112 Tier 3 = $1,201 Tier 4 = $234 Tier 5 = $63 Tier 6 = $0 (not collected)	The total administrative fee is divided proportionally amongst the tiers based on their total market share (or covered electronic product sales).	The total administrative fee is divided proportionally amongst the tiers based on their total market share (or covered electronic product sales).	RCW 70A.500.130 RCW 70A.500.230 RCW 70A.500.290	Six tier structure based on % of the total Washington market share for computers, monitors, and TVs sold in or into Washington. Depending on the market for the period of time in question, manufacturers may move from one tier to another.
Mercury Light Generation Fee	Department of Ecology	$3,000 annually per manufacturer	$3,000 annually per manufacturer	N/A	N/A	N/A	RCW 70A.505.050	Producers that sell mercury-containing lights in or into Washington State are required to pay a fee of $3,000 to Ecology annually for oversight of mercury containing lights collection and recovery, including review and approve plans and plan revisions, monitor and evaluate program operations, and implement the regulations.
Mercury Light Stewardship Organization Fee	Department of Ecology			Beginning March 1, 2025, each stewardship organization shall pay to the department the annual fee to cover the department's administrative and enforcement costs.	Each stewardship organization shall pay to the department the annual fee to cover the department's administrative and enforcement costs.	Each stewardship organization shall pay to the department the annual fee to cover the department's administrative and enforcement costs.	RCW 70A.505.050	Each mercury lights stewardship organization shall pay to the department the annual fee to cover the department's administrative and enforcement costs.
Mixed Waste Management Fee	Department of Ecology	$ 12,032,000	$ 11,923,000	$ 12,216,000	$ 13,368,000	$ 14,496,000	RCW 70A.300.460	Funds are received from the US Department of Energy and other facilities that treat, store, or dispose of mixed wastes. The fee established shall be sufficient to fund all costs of carrying out the department's duties under 70.105 RCW (recodified as RCW 70A.300.460) at mixed waste facilities. Fee is determined annually. Fees are prorated to payee's on planned hours for the year.
New Source Review Fee	Department of Ecology	$1,500-$10,000 for permit application fee which covers a base number of hours. Hours over the base amount are charged at $95/hour.	$1,904-$12,614 for permit application fee which covers a base number of hours. Hours over the base amount are charged at $119/hour.	$1,904-$12,614 for permit application fee which covers a base number of hours. Hours over the base amount are charged at $119/hour.	$1,904-$12,614 for permit application fee which covers a base number of hours. Hours over the base amount are charged at $119/hour.	$1,904-$12,614 for permit application fee which covers a base number of hours. Hours over the base amount are charged at $119/hour.	RCW 70A.15.2210	The fee is imposed on owners or operators of new sources of air emissions that are required to submit a notice of construction of proposed new sources or emissions unit.
Paint Stewardship Administration Fee	Department of Ecology	Annual fee is calculated based on estimated costs for the forthcoming fiscal year and billed to the product stewardship organization. In the 2023-25 biennium, annual costs are estimated to be $70,500.	Annual fee is calculated based on estimated costs for the forthcoming fiscal year and billed to the product stewardship organization. In the 2023-25 biennium, annual costs are estimated to be $70,500.	Annual fee is calculated based on estimated costs for the forthcoming fiscal year and billed to the product stewardship organization.	Annual fee is calculated based on estimated costs for the forthcoming fiscal year and billed to the product stewardship organization.	Annual fee is calculated based on estimated costs for the forthcoming fiscal year and billed to the product stewardship organization.	RCW 70A.515.060	A paint stewardship organization representing producers of architectural paint sold in Washington state is required to pay an annual fee for the purposes of funding Ecology's costs to implement and enforce the paint stewardship program. The stewardship organization or producer subject to this law must pay Ecology's administrative fee by June 30 each year.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Photovoltaic Module Product Stewardship Fee	Department of Ecology	An annual fee based on the manufacturer's pro rata share of sales in Washington to cover the agency's annual program implementation costs.	An annual fee based on the manufacturer's pro rata share of sales in Washington to cover the agency's annual program implementation costs.	An annual fee based on the manufacturer's pro rata share of sales in Washington to cover the agency's annual program implementation costs.	N/A	N/A	RCW 70A.510.010	Producers that sell photovoltaic modules (solar panels) in or into Washington State were required to pay a one-time flat fee in 2018 and an annual fee based on the manufacturer's pro rata share of sales in Washington to cover the agency's annual program implementation costs. Beginning July 1, 2025, the sale or offer for sale of photovoltaic modules in or into the state will be prohibited, unless a manufacturer has an approved stewardship plan by Ecology.
Plastic Product Manufacturer Annual Fee	Department of Ecology	The fee amount is based on annual workload analysis cost estimates, and each producer's total Washington weight of plastic resin as a percentage of the total resin reported during registration for all covered producers. The variable fee ranged from $5 to nearly $93,000 per producer for the FY 2024 workload analysis.	The fee amount is based on annual workload analysis cost estimates, and each producer's total Washington weight of plastic resin as a percentage of the total resin reported during registration for all covered producers. The variable fee ranged from $5 to nearly $93,000 per producer for the FY 2024 workload analysis.	FY 2025 workload analysis cost $567,105. The variable fee ranged from $1.48 to nearly $55,847.05 per producer	Producers pay Ecology's program administration fee and PCRC oversight costs for the upcoming year proportional to their resin weights.	Producers pay Ecology's program administration fee and PCRC oversight costs for the upcoming year proportional to their resin weights.	RCW 70A.245.020	Producers of covered products must pay an annual administrative fee to Ecology, either individually or through a third-party representative. Ecology determines the equitable distribution of fees to cover, but not exceed, costs necessary to implement the plastics post-consumer recycled content law.
Radioactive Waste Surcharge Fee	Department of Ecology	$6.5/cu ft.	$6.5/cu ft.	$6.5/cu ft.	$6.5/cu ft.	$6.5/cu ft.	RCW 70A.384.110	US Ecology collects $6.50 for each cubic foot of waste received for disposal. The company remits the revenue to the Department of Ecology and then Ecology deposits $4.50 into the Hanford Area Economic Investment Account and remits $2.00 to Benton County. This fee is set by statute.
Recycling Reform Annual Registration Fee	Department of Ecology	N/A	N/A	N/A	The fee amount will be based on Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the recycling reform program for the upcoming year.	The fee amount will be based on Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the recycling reform program for the upcoming year.	RCW 70A.208.060	Product Stewardship Organization(s) are required to pay an annual registration fee to cover Ecology's costs to implement, administer, and enforce the recycling reform program.
Refrigerant Management Program Fee	Department of Ecology	N/A	For AC systems larger than 1500 pounds - Initial implementation fee of $150 and annual implementation fee of $370. (Starting in FY 26 - For systems 200 to 1500 pounds - annual implementation fee of $170.)	For AC systems larger than 1500 pounds - Initial implementation fee of $150 and annual implementation fee of $370. (Starting in FY 26 - For systems 200 to 1500 pounds - annual implementation fee of $170.)	For AC systems larger than 1500 pounds - Initial implementation fee of $150 and annual implementation fee of $370. (Starting in FY 26 - For systems 200 to 1500 pounds - annual implementation fee of $170.)	For AC systems larger than 1500 pounds - Initial implementation fee of $150 and annual implementation fee of $370. (Starting in FY 26 - For systems 200 to 1500 pounds - annual implementation fee of $170.)	RCW 70A.60.030	Fee covers the cost of administering the refrigerant management program. Fees may be adjusted based on workload analysis

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Sewage Treatment Plant Operator's License Fee	Department of Ecology	Group I application fee $60; other groups application fee $85; renewal fee $135.	Group I application fee $75; other groups application fee $125; renewal fee $200.	Group I application fee $75; other groups application fee $125; renewal fee $200.	Group I application fee $75; other groups application fee $125; renewal fee $200.	Group I application fee $75; other groups application fee $125; renewal fee $200.	RCW 70.95B.090 70.95B.095	Ecology collects fees for the issuance and renewal of wastewater treatment plant operator certificates as provided for in RCW 70.95B.090. Fees are established biennially in amounts to fully recover and not to exceed expenses incurred to administer the wastewater operator certification program, to include evaluating applications necessary to verify compliance with certification requirements, maintaining and administering credible examinations, ensuring operators receive necessary training, outreach, and technical assistance, enforcing certification program requirements, providing necessary education and training to program staff, and supporting the overhead expenses related to administering the wastewater operator certification program. If fee increases above the state's fiscal growth factor are proposed, due to an expansion of the wastewater operator certification program, Ecology must submit a report to the legislature describing the need for the increase.
Underground Storage Tank Fee	Department of Ecology	$216.09/tank	$228.58/tank	$243.21/tank	$243.21/tank	$258.29/tank	RCW 90.76.090	The fee is currently set at $228.58 per tank with annual renewal. The department may authorize additional annual local tank fees in environmentally sensitive areas but not to exceed fifty percent of the annual state fee. The fee amount may increase using the fiscal growth factor each year. Revenue estimates were derived from the current UST database, actual receipts, and tank removals/installations.
Waste Tire Carrier / Storage License fee	Department of Ecology	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business.	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business.	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business.	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business.	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business.	RCW 70A.205.445	The Waste Carrier license costs $200 for the business and $50 for each vehicle. The Waste Storage license costs $250 for the business. The monies are used for cleanup of unauthorized waste tire piles, measures that prevent future accumulation of unauthorized waste tire piles, and road wear related maintenance on state and local public highways (WSDOT).
Wastewater Discharge Permit Fee	Department of Ecology	Fees range annually from $150 to $176,700 for industrial permit holders; general permit holders pay annual fees ranging from $150 to $33,200.	Fees range annually from $150 to $176,700 for industrial permit holders; general permit holders pay annual fees ranging from $150 to $33,200.	Fees range annually from $150 to $176,700 for industrial permit holders; general permit holders from $150 to $33,200; Municipal stormwater Phase 1 permits pay a flat fee of $76,916. Municipal wastewater permits between $250 and $1.4 million.	Fees range annually from $165 to $180,230 for industrial permit holders; general permit holders from $165 to $35,400; Municipal stormwater Phase 1 permits pay a flat fee of $78,500. Municipal wastewater permits between $275 and $1.5 million.	Fees range annually from $165 to $183,830 for industrial permit holders; general permit holders from $165 to $37,600; Municipal stormwater Phase 1 permits pay a flat fee of $80,000. Municipal wastewater permits between $275 and $1.5 million.	RCW 90.48.465	Ecology is required to assess annual fees to holders of wastewater and stormwater discharge permits. Permit fees are used to fund Ecology's administration of the wastewater/stormwater discharge permit program. Ecology must go through formal rulemaking to amend the fee regulation. This can only occur once every two years.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Water Pollution Control Revolving Admin Charge	Department of Ecology	Administration charge calculated at one percent of the outstanding balance on each SRF loan in repayment.	Administration charge calculated at one percent of the outstanding balance on each SRF loan in repayment.	Administration charge calculated up to one percent of the outstanding balance on each SRF loan in repayment. Currently it is .3% of the outstanding loan balance.	Administration charge calculated up to one percent of the outstanding balance on each SRF loan in repayment. Currently it is .3% of the outstanding loan balance.	Administration charge calculated up to one percent of the outstanding balance on each SRF loan in repayment. Currently it is .3% of the outstanding loan balance.	RCW 90.50A.090	The department is authorized to assess administration charges as a portion of the debt service for loans issued under the water pollution control revolving fund. The sole purpose of assessing administration charges is to predictably and adequately fund the department's costs of administering the water pollution control revolving fund loan program. The department must assess administration charges on each water pollution control revolving fund loan at the point the loan enters repayment status, after July 28, 2013, and rule changes are adopted to implement the administration charge. Loans that are at an interest rate below the established administration charge rate are exempt from the administration charge.
Water Right Applications, Permits & Certificates & Related Misc Fee	Department of Ecology	$50-25,000 New Application & Change/Transfer of water right. $50 Prepare/Issue water right certification. $50 Extend construction schedule. $50 Temp/Seasonal change. $50 Filing fee-amend water right claim/Record formal protest on app. $50 reservoir exam.	$50-25,000 New Application & Change/Transfer of water right. $50 Prepare/Issue water right certification. $50 Extend construction schedule. $50 Temp/Seasonal change. $50 Filing fee-amend water right claim/Record formal protest on app. $50 reservoir exam.	$50-25,000 New Application & Change/Transfer of water right. $50 Prepare/Issue water right certification. $50 Extend construction schedule. $50 Temp/Seasonal change. $50 Filing fee-amend water right claim/Record formal protest on app. $50 reservoir exam.	$50-25,000 New Application & Change/Transfer of water right. $50 Prepare/Issue water right certification. $50 Extend construction schedule. $50 Temp/Seasonal change. $50 Filing fee-amend water right claim/Record formal protest on app. $50 reservoir exam.	$50-25,000 New Application & Change/Transfer of water right. $50 Prepare/Issue water right certification. $50 Extend construction schedule. $50 Temp/Seasonal change. $50 Filing fee-amend water right claim/Record formal protest on app. $50 reservoir exam.	RCW 90.03.470 90.14.240	Three basic fees are collected for filing and examination of an application, recording a permit, and recording a certificate. Other fees are charged for extensions of time, changing an existing right construction of a reservoir, and minor actions. 80% of the fee is deposited in GFS and 20% will be deposited into the Water Rights Tracking System Acct.
Water Well Operator's License Fee	Department of Ecology	$75 application fee for new operator or training license, renew in 2 years.	$75 application fee for new operator or training license, renew in 2 years.	$75 application fee for new operator or training license, renew in 2 years.	$75 application fee for new operator or training license, renew in 2 years.	$75 application fee for new operator or training license, renew in 2 years.	RCW 18.104.040 18.104.070	A $75 application fee is charged for each new operator or training license. An existing license is renewable for two years upon payment of a $75 fee.
Watershed Restoration and Enhancement Program Fee	Department of Ecology	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.	RCW 90.94.020 & 90.94.030	Local governments collect a $500 fee from persons seeking a building permit that includes construction of a permit exempt water well in designated WRIAs; $350 of each fee is remitted by local governments to Ecology.

Fee Title	Agency	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2023	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2024	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2025	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2026	Fee Amount as of 1/1/2027	Statutory Authority	Purpose
Well Construction & Inspection Fee	Department of Ecology	$200 Water Well (dia<12 inches) $300 Water Well (dia-> 12 inches) $40 Resource Protection well, $40 per 200 lineal ft. of dewatering system; $40 for the 1st 4 envir. investigation wells, $10 ea. additional well $20-$50 Decommission fee.	$200 Water Well (dia<12 inches) $300 Water Well (dia-> 12 inches) $40 Resource Protection well, $40 per 200 lineal ft. of dewatering system; $40 for the 1st 4 envir. investigation wells, $10 ea. additional well $20-$50 Decommission fee.	$200 Water Well Regular (dia<12 inches) $300 Water Well Large(dia-> 12 inches); $40 Resource Protection well; $40 per 200 lineal ft. of dewatering system; $40 for the 1st 4 envir. investigation wells, $10 each additional boring; $50 Water Well Decommission fee and $20 Resource Protection and Grounding Decommissioning fee.	$200 Water Well Regular (dia<12 inches) $300 Water Well Large(dia-> 12 inches); $40 Resource Protection well; $40 per 200 lineal ft. of dewatering system; $40 for the 1st 4 envir. investigation wells, $10 each additional boring; $50 Water Well Decommission fee and $20 Resource Protection and Grounding Decommisioning fee.	$200 Water Well Regular (dia<12 inches) $300 Water Well Large(dia-> 12 inches); $40 Resource Protection well; $40 per 200 lineal ft. of dewatering system; $40 for the 1st 4 envir. investigation wells, $10 each additional boring; $50 Water Well Decommission fee and $20 Resource Protection and Grounding Decommissioning fee.	RCW 18.104.055	Statute authorizes the Department of Ecology to collect well drilling licensing fees and fees associated with the construction of all water wells. Fee is due per occurrence. Counties may receive portion of fee generated revenue to cover partial cost of delegated inspection authority.
Wood Stove Education & Enforcement Fee	Department of Revenue	$30	$30	$30	$30	$30	RCW 70A.15.3620	One time purchase fee of $30 at purchase of wood stoves, fireplaces, and other solid fuel burning devices. Fee level is set by statute and can be adjusted to reflect inflation. This fee is collected by the Department of Revenue.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***

Hanford Cleanup

If Congress does not allocate sufficient funding to the Department of Energy or preserve the regulatory framework that governs cleanup activities, the cleanup mission faces a high likelihood of significant delay or indefinite suspension. This outcome would increase long-term environmental and public health risks, escalate future remediation costs, and create substantial compliance and liability exposure. Inadequate appropriations or weakened legal authorities could leave the nation with an unmanaged legacy of contamination, diminishing our ability to mitigate hazards and protect communities over time.

Current Controls

Ecology, often in coordination with the Governor's Office and other regional partners, communicates funding and policy needs directly to congressional delegates to reduce the likelihood of harmful federal cuts. Additionally, the Triparty Agreement (TPA) establishes enforceable cleanup milestones and obligations. This contractually anchors DOE's responsibilities, making it harder for cleanup activities to be deprioritized or abandoned.

Risk Treatment

Ecology works with DOE and EPA through structured budget-planning cycles, ensuring Washington's priorities are clearly documented and transmitted early in the federal budget process. When federal appropriations fall short, Ecology has structured processes for renegotiating schedules while preserving long-term commitments and environmental protections.

Records Management and Public Disclosure

Growing demand for public records, coupled with outdated or insufficient systems for managing both historical hard copy records and modern electronic files, creates a risk that Ecology may produce incomplete or inaccessible records. In addition, new and rapidly changing technology like AI functionality bring uncertainties to the protection of sensitive records.

Current Controls

Ecology has strengthened compliance practices, improved internal governance, and increased staff training. The agency has received funding for an Enterprise Content Management (ECM) system and is in the early stages of planning its implementation, which should eventually provide modern tools for digital records management, workflow automation, and centralized content governance. Also, Ecology has increased staffing to include a cloud records trainer and privacy officer.

Risk Treatment

Ecology will implement a modern, agency wide ECM system that supports electronic records governance, enterprise search, lifecycle management, and long term retention. The agency will also expand staff training on PRA compliance, digital records best practices, and appropriate use of cloud based storage to improve record quality and accessibility. Finally, the agency is providing weekly change management and training for staff so they can adapt to frequent dynamic changes to electronic records behaviors in their working environment.

Infrastructure Integrity

Legacy databases, systems, or infrastructure may fail or degrade, resulting in loss of data integrity and/or system availability. This risk is driven by end-of-life technology, single points of failure, configuration drift, and inadequate backup architecture. Legacy platforms often lack vendor support and may experience performance degradation, storage failures, or security vulnerabilities that threaten system availability and data integrity.

Current Controls

Controls include lifecycle management, resilient architecture, modern backup designs, patching routines, and access controls for backup environments. These controls involve backup monitoring, periodic restore tests,

storage/DB health checks, IT disaster recovery planning, and temporary manual workarounds when systems are unavailable.

Risk Treatment

Improvements include strengthening backup verification, increasing restore testing frequency, documenting critical runbooks, and ensuring offsite and immutable copies exist for priority systems.

*** This page intentionally blank. ***